



# The Brooklyn Paper

Local Newspaper

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**BROOKLYN HEIGHTS—DOWNTOWN EDITION**  
INCLUDING DUMBO

AWP/16 pages • Vol. 30, No. 40 • **Saturday, Oct. 13, 2007** • **FREE**

## CLOCK TEASE!

### Four-faced liar gets undressed

By Dana Rubinstein

*The Brooklyn Paper*  
After more than a year in hiding, the Williamsburgh Savings Bank clocktower finally began to shed its veil of black netting and blue plywood last week, allowing its shining dome and the upper portions of its four-faced timepiece to emerge. By Wednesday, the clock remained half dressed, its faces playing peek-a-boo from above the protective garment.

Now, it's only a matter of time before the clock itself starts ticking again. But how much time, exactly?

Andrew MacArthur, a top official in the company that owns the landmark building and is transforming it into luxury condos, would only say, "The near future."

MacArthur's Dermot Company partnered with Magic Johnson to purchase the building back in 2005 and convert it from a Tooth Tower of dentists offices into high-end residences. The company covered the clock in September 2006, saying at the time that repairs to the celebrated clock atop the tallest building in Brooklyn would be complete by July 4, 2007.

But Independence Day came and went, and the clock remained hidden. The delay is due to an expanded scope of work, according to MacArthur.

"We elected to do more rather than less," he said. "We knew how important the clock was to the borough. And we elected to try and do the right thing with it."

Doing the right thing hasn't come cheap. The firm initially intended to spend \$410,000 on repairing the 78-year-old clock. Now, the price tag is nearing \$1 million.

That extra money has helped fund the replacement of the clock's conventional light bulbs with LED lights on the clock hands, and fiber-optic lights on the numbers. The new lights will retain the clock's capacity to change color with the season. Dermot also cleaned the entire face, not something they'd originally intended on doing.

Ken Neill, a clocktower expert who visited the tickler last month, said he was impressed with the clock, and with the work completed thus far.

"They did a beautiful job as far as restoring the outside," said Neill, who represents Christoph Paccard Bellfoundries, a 200-year-old clocktower and bell outfit. "And the electricians were in the process of doing some rewiring when I was there. I had never seen a clock so big in my life."

"That clock is beautiful," continued Neill, in a bit of a rapture. "It's magnificent. It's very unique."

# MOMENT OF TRUTH

## Court to determine if Ratner gets land

By Gersh Kuntzman

*The Brooklyn Paper*  
The climactic legal battle against the Atlantic Yards mega-project began in a Manhattan courtroom on Tuesday, where lawyers argued over one of the oldest issues in American jurisprudence: When can the government seize a person's home and give it to someone else to tear down and redevelop?

At times, the legal debate in the federal courthouse appeared on the verge of mere-

ly rearranging the entire history of Atlantic Yards. Bruce Ratner's \$4-billion arena, hotel, housing, office space and retail development over and around the Long Island Rail Road yard in Prospect Heights.

But the lawyers soon focused on the main argument in the case, Goldstein v. Pataki: does the supposed "public benefit" of Atlantic Yards give the Empire State Development Corporation the authority to seize 13 privately owned properties and turn them over to Ratner?

Arguing "no" was plaintiff's lawyer,

### MORE ATLANTIC YARDS INSIDE

- Marty axes Bruce's panel pal
- Yards foes protest on Sunday
- Marty skips gay yards talk
- Editorial: Yards case is strong

Matthew Brinkerhoff, who told the three-judge panel that the government can take private property — and even hand it over to a private, profit-making developer — but only when the government, not the developer, is initiating the project.

"The taking here was motivated by a desire to benefit a specific developer... the only person who was ever considered for this property," Brinkerhoff said. "The private developer decided which properties he needed and the private developer went

to the government [to get them]."

The case had been dismissed back in June, when District Judge Nicholas Garafis said that the project's supposed public benefits — affordable housing, a basketball arena, and seven acres of new open space — would allow the government to seize privately owned property and hand them over to Ratner.

But the plaintiffs appealed on the grounds that the Supreme Court's landmark 2005 Kelo decision — which expanded the notion

See **MOMENT OF TRUTH** on page 4

## New face of vandalism?



Six-year-old Natalie Shea got a threatening letter from the city demanding the removal of "graffiti" she drew with chalk — with chalk! — on her front stoop. Here, Shea shows her defiance to the warning letter by creating a new work with the supposedly illegal medium.

### 6-year-old faces stiff penalty for chalking her stoop

A 6-year-old Park Slope girl is facing a \$300 fine from the city for doing what city kids have been doing for decades: drawing a pretty picture with common sidewalk chalk.

Obviously not all of Natalie Shea's 10th Street neighbors thought her blue chalk splotch was her best work — a neighbor called 311 to report the "graffiti," and the Department of Sanitation quickly sent a standard letter to Natalie's mom, Jen Pepperman.

Can somebody stop these bureaucrats before they Kafka again? "PLEASE REMOVE THE GRAFFITI FROM YOUR PROPERTY," the Sanitation Department warning letter read. "FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY RESULT IN ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST YOU."

Since when is a kid's chalk drawing "graffiti"? Since the City Council passed local law 111 in 2005, which defined "graffiti" as "any letter, word, name, number, symbol, slogan, message, drawing, picture, writing... that is drawn, painted, chiseled, scratched, or etched on a commercial building or residential building."

In other words, Natalie Shea is not an artistic little girl, but a graffiti scowlaw?

No. The law goes on to say that the scribbles can only be called "graffiti" if they are "not consented to by the owner of the commercial building or residential building." But how could the 311 caller possibly be expected to know if Natalie had her mom's consent to use chalk on her own front stoop?

See **GRAFFITI** on page 5

## JIMMY ODDO RULES 'RØST'

### Pol f-bombs the Norwegians; see the whole f-ing thing on YouTube!

By Gersh Kuntzman

*The Brooklyn Paper*  
Councilman James Oddo — hot-headed, expletive-spewing Neanderthal or a great defender of America's cherished bipartisan traditions? You decide. Oddo (R-Dyker Heights) made headlines around the globe this week after a user of YouTube, the ubiquitous video-sharing Web site, posted a clip of the Council minority leader screaming obscenities at a Norwegian reporter whose "interview" was really an A1 G-style prank.

Once he realized that the joke was on him, Oddo wasn't laughing. "Get the f—k out of my office! What the f— is this?" Oddo screamed, dropping the "f bomb" 15 times (and assorted other barmy and expletives a few more times) in the clip which ran just over one-and-one-half minutes.

The YouTube footage has made Oddo something of a folk hero among his supporters ("Reminds me of Sonny Corleone! Awesome," said one fan) and a thorn to his detractors ("You embarrassed yourself, Staten Island and Italian," wrote one disappointed constituent). Either way, the video has become a must-watch (you can see it on our Web site, [www.BrooklynPaper.com](http://www.BrooklynPaper.com)).

The segment seemed innocent enough, with the Norwegian "reporter" actually an actress with the fake news show "Rickets Røst" — entering Oddo's office and sitting down to ask a few questions.

But from the first question, the councilman sensed something was amiss. "Isn't it against the Constitution that Barack Obama runs [sic] for presidency when he's not an American citizen?"

"He's an American citizen," a calm, but startled Oddo replied. "He's a United States senator."

"But I read somewhere he's African-American," the interviewer persisted.

See **ODDO'S F-BOMB** on page 4

## Exit stage left at 'Osama' show

By Adam Rathes

*The Brooklyn Paper*

St. Ann's Warehouse wanted to stage a play with buzz, but at the Oct. 7 premiere of Dutch playwright Adachi Rosen's "Is Man," the buzz wasn't about how great the show was.

In the middle of his performance, Youssef Idilbi

gestured towards his malfunctioning microphone and then abruptly walked off stage.

When he returned — out of costume and carrying a bag from Foot Locker — he gathered his possessions from the stage and made his final exit.

Rosen's show — and its companion piece, "The Veiled Monologues" — are making its U.S. debut. After Idilbi flaked out, Rosen took to the stage her-

self, reading her own words from a script.

St. Ann's artistic director Susan Feldman told the New York Times that Idilbi's strange behavior was due to illness. He was slated to return for the final performances of the show this weekend.

Rosen's plays made headlines — in The Brooklyn Paper — when the playwright said President Bush and Osama bin Laden were "mirrors" of each other.

## City can't find Fort Greene cash



This entrance of Fort Greene Park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park will soon be renovated. This picture was created from three separate photos shot by our technically savvy shutterbug.

By Dana Rubinstein

*The Brooklyn Paper*

The Parks Department can't find more than \$300,000 that had been pledged towards the restoration of historic Fort Greene Park.

Officials publicly acknowledged the apparent hole in the agency's pocket this week, following an announcement that two elected officials had allocated \$1 million to repair a stairway in the park.

The missing \$350,000 was allocated by Downtown Brooklyn Partnership President Joe Chan in 2003, when he was an assistant to Deputy

See **PARK CASH** on page 4




## Paper winners in Philly



Editor Gersh Kuntzman (left) and Senior Editor Vince DiMicali finally get that well-deserved drink on the boss after picking up The Brooklyn Paper's "Newspaper of the Year" award (center) last Thursday at the Suburban Newspaper Association awards banquet in Philadelphia. The pair later took the award on a wild tour of the City of Brotherly Love. Catch the action at [www.BrooklynPaper.com](http://www.BrooklynPaper.com).

Let YOUR WILD side out this Halloween.

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# HERE TO GO

## EDITORS' PICKS

### SATURDAY October 13



#### A local 'Call'

Tonight at Vox Pop, contributors to "New York Calling," a new book about the edginess of 1970s and '80s New York, will read from their stories. Listen to Brian Berger, Marshall Berman, Tom Robbins and more discuss the days when crack, not coffee, was the most popular \$5 pick-up in town.

7 pm at Vox Pop (1022 Corliss Rd. at Coney Island Avenue in Ditmas Park). Free. For information, call (718) 940-2084.

### SUNDAY October 14

#### Jamaican jam

Sure the Brooklyn Philharmonic does innovative programming, but leave it to an orchestra from Jamaica to bring reggae into its symphonic mix. Billed as "reggae philharmonic," the Jamaica Philharmonic, joined by singer Freddie McGregor (pictured), will take the stage at Brooklyn Center tonight and blend island flavor with classical sounds.

7 pm at Brooklyn College's Walt Whitman Theatre (2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Midwood). For information, call (718) 951-4500 or visit [www.brooklyncenter.com](http://www.brooklyncenter.com).



### TUESDAY October 16

#### On the funny

What's the deal with there being no great comedy clubs in Brooklyn? Foul-mouthed Pat Candaras alone could pack the house. Picking up the slack tonight, rock club Magnetic Field is putting on "Pant-Hoot," a comedy show featuring Jessica Deloff (pictured) and Elton James White.

8 pm at Magnetic Field (91 Atlantic Ave. at Hicks Street in Brooklyn Heights). Free. For information, call (718) 834-9096 or visit [www.magneticbrooklyn.com](http://www.magneticbrooklyn.com).

### WEDNESDAY October 17

#### Get it write

Tonight, Park Sloper Joshua Henkin reads from his latest tome, "Matrimony," a decades-long love story that everyone we know keeps insisting we read. Plenty of authors drop into the busy Barnes and Noble on Seventh Avenue, but how many of them can you follow home?

7:30 pm at Barnes and Noble (267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope). Free. For information, call (718) 832-9066.



### FRIDAY October 19

#### High art

Famed choreographer Nacho Duato brings the Spanish national dance company to BAM's stage in a much more Colombian production: "White Darkness" finds dancers tiptoeing on the powdery slopes of drug addiction. We're scared; intrigued, but scared.

7:30 pm at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene). \$20-\$60. For information, call (718) 636-4100 or visit [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

# NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

**SAT, OCT. 13**

**OUTDOORS AND TOURS**

**VINEGAR HILL:** Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment hosts a tour of this neighborhood with collaborative streets. \$13. \$10 members, \$8 seniors and students. 11 am to 1 pm. Meet street level of the York Street station of the F train (718) 788-8500, ext. 208.

**LULUWATER EXPLORATION:** Enjoy boat tour detailing Prospect Park's aquatic habitat. Breakfast provided. \$10. \$6 kids. Noon to 12:45 pm. Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. (718) 287-3400.

**KAYAKING:** Gowanus Dredgers offers a 20-minute cruise in Red Hook by kayak. 1 pm to 5 pm. Louis Valentino Jr. Park, Coffey and Ferris streets. (917) 676-6458. For info, visit [www.redhookdredgers.org](http://www.redhookdredgers.org).

**BIRDWATCHING CRUISE:** Learn about the history of Prospect Park, from its origins to the present day, while touring one of the park's most scenic habitats. \$10. \$6 kids. 1:15 pm to 2 pm. Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. (718) 287-3400.

**SUNSET CRUISE:** American Littoral Society hosts a cruise on Jamaica Bay. Learn the history, wildlife and ecology of the bay, a part of the Gateway National Recreation Area. \$45 includes snacks. 4 pm to 7 pm. Call for reservations. (718) 318-9344.



**Krum, not crummy:** On Oct. 17, catch "Krum," a Polish-language show with English subtitles, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music as part of the "Next Wave Festival."

**636-4976. Free.**

**BROOKLYN MUSEUM:** presents an adult program of techniques of watercolor painting. \$6. \$4 seniors and students. 2 pm to 4 pm. 200 Eastern Pkwy. (718) 638-5000.

**BARNES AND NOBLE:** presents an editors' choice of teachers of grades K-8. 3 pm to 5 pm. 267 Seventh Ave. (718) 832-9066. Free.

**ANNIVERSARY PARTY:** Lutheran Family Health Center. \$10. \$6 kids. 7 pm. Prospect Park. Food, dancing, open bar. 6 pm to 11 pm. Harvest at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Adams St. Call for ticket info. (718) 630-6245.

**MOVIE SCREENING:** Thor Equities presents a "Night Film." "Chatterbox." P.O. Viewing area opens at 6:30 pm. Film starts at dusk. Bring your own seat. Call, call, call. (718) 636-4100.

**READING:** Vox Pop features Tom Robbins, Marshall Berman and the Boardwalk. [www.theliteraryproject.com](http://www.theliteraryproject.com). Free.

**DANCE PARTY:** Salsa the Heat hosts a party with Laune Shoyler and Art Leland's Heavily Big Band. \$15. 7:30 pm. Gowanus Arts Building. 295 Douglas St. (718) 480-3234.

**PERFORMANCE**

**RYAN REP:** presents "A Thing of Beauty" by Maurice Berger. \$12. \$10 children 12 and under. 8 pm. Ryan Repertory Company's Jonathan Rosenblum Performing Arts Center. 2445 Beth Ave. (718) 996-4500.

**MUSIC:** St. John's Church presents Lynne Vardaman, soprano, and Mark Victor Smith, pianist. Songs in a variety of styles in French and English by Ravel, Poulenc, Kurt Weill and others. \$15. 7 pm. 299th Street at Fort Hamilton Parkway. (718) 745-2377.

**NET MUSIC:** St. George's "Net Music" at Fort Hamilton Parkway. (718) 745-2377.

**BARGE MUSIC:** presents a classical music concert: "Neo-Classicism and Neo-Romanticism: Works by Berg, Stravinsky, Hindemith, Chabrier and Others." \$40. \$25 students. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. 104 Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-0283.

**OPERA:** American Opera Projects presents "Six Scenes," new music by six emerging composers. \$15. \$12 students and seniors. 8 pm. Grand Room at South Oxford Square, 138 S. Oxford St. (718) 288-4424.

**RIDGE REPERTORY:** presents "To Gillian On Her 37th Birthday." \$18. 8 pm. Bay Ridge Jewish Center. Fourth Avenue and 81st Street. (718) 836-3103.

**BOSC:** Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts presents Ballet Folklórico de Mexico de Arleña Hernandez. \$30. \$20. 8 pm. Walt Whitman Theatre at Brooklyn College, one building from the intersection of 41st and Nostrand avenues. (718) 951-4500.

**OPERA:** One act chamber opera "Constancy" features Judith Barnea. \$15. \$10 seniors and students. 8 pm. Brooklyn Music School, 126 St. Felix St. (718) 638-5640.

**GET THE GOODS:** Prospect Lefferts United for Service and P.O. Arts host the second annual Art Mart 11225. Items include handmade jewelry, knitwear, one-of-a-kind pottery, African drums and small gift items. 11 am to 5 pm. Lincoln Road between Ocean and Fourth avenues. [www.pigart.com](http://www.pigart.com).

**INDIE MARKET:** Collective of Brooklyn independent designers show their wares of fashion, accessories, bath and beauty, pet gear, home-goods and more. 11 am to 7 pm. Smith and Bond streets. [www.brooklynindiemarket.com](http://www.brooklynindiemarket.com).

**PEACE FAIR:** Bay Ridge Neighbors for Peace host a peace fair featuring speakers from Code Pink, Grassy Pica Brigade, Military Families Speak Out, The

Military Project and other groups. Information tables from many peace groups, music, performance, childcare and kids' activities. 11 am to 5 pm. Parking lot, Bay Ridge United Methodist Church at Ocean and Fourth avenues. 640-546-6442. Free.

**ART SHOW:** Brooklyn Waterfront Arts Coalition presents the Red Hook International Art Show and the Red Hook International Art Show. Art show is "Nanette," 1 pm to 6 pm. Also, Brooklyn Crafts Festival, an outdoor juried fair, runs along the waterfront esplanade. 499 Van Brunt St. (718) 596-2256. Free.

**SKYLIGHT GALLERY:** presents the work of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Artists Association. 1 pm to 6 pm. 1368 Fulton St. (718) 730-3030.

**SUN, OCT. 14**

**OUTDOORS AND TOURS**

**VICTORIAN FLATBUSH:** Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment hosts a tour with Brooklyn's official historian, Ron Schweitzer. Learn the history of Prospect Park South. Ditmars Park and Beverly Square West. \$13. \$10 members, \$8 seniors and students. 10:30 am to 1 pm. Meet at street level of the New Haven Avenue at the C18 train. (718) 788-8500, ext. 208.

**WILD TOUR:** "Wildman" Steve Brill leads "Wild Food and Ecology Tour" of Prospect Park. \$12. \$6 kids 12 and younger. 11:45 am. Meet at Prospect Park's Grand Army Plaza entrance. (718) 835-2153.

**WALKATHON:** Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn hosts a fundraiser. Event features a 1.5-mile walk, starting at the edge of the project's footprint. Noon to 5 pm. Register at [www.dontdestroybrooklyn.org](http://www.dontdestroybrooklyn.org). 485 Dean St. at Sixth Ave. For info visit [www.dontdestroybrooklyn.org](http://www.dontdestroybrooklyn.org).

**HOUSE TOUR:** Self-guided tour of Prospect Heights, hosted by the Prospect Heights Association. Nine homes on view. \$20. Noon to 5 pm. Purchase tickets at Forest Floor Antiques, 657 Vanderbilt St. For info, call (718) 707-1277.

**PERFORMANCE**

**ONE ACT PLAY:** The Jalcory Theatre presents "The Jalcory Theatre." \$10. 3 pm. 315 Columbia St. (718) 395-3214.

**CONCERTE:** Plymouth Church presents its "Music on the Heights" series. Concerts "Duets and Dialogues," Eric Brink and Presents Hells on origin and piano. \$10. 3 pm. 75 Hicks St. (718) 403-9546.

**CONCERTE:** St. Jacobs St. Lutheran Church presents a concert featuring the Duo Marchand, a harp and live performance. 4 pm. 5400 Fourth Ave. (718) 439-8978. Free.

**OPERA:** Brooklyn Repertory Opera presents a production of Beethoven's "Fidelio," performed with full orchestra. Beethoven's only opera was a commentary on current events in Europe in his time. \$20. \$10 seniors and students. 4 pm. Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 Fourth Ave. (718) 357-4816.

**REGGAE IN SYMPHONY:** Reggae Pioneer John Holt and Grammy-nominated Freddie McGregor perform. \$40 to \$110. 7 pm. Walt

See 9 DAYS on page 13

**SNY Newspaper of the Year 2007**

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# THE STOOP

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DOWNTOWN DUMBO

## Sinking feeling in the Heights

Is Brooklyn Heights sinking? It might sound far-fetched, but judging by the amount of craters in our neighborhood streets, we might be closer to swimming with the fishes than you think.

There are sizeable chunks missing from Hicks Street at both Remsen and Clark streets, another one at Poplar and Henry Streets and a smattering of smaller holes on State and Clinton streets. Not to mention the giant crater on Pineapple Street between Hicks and Willow Streets that opened up this summer. Whew!

So it's no surprise that locals are wondering whether our little nabe is falling through the cracks. With grumblings about sinkholes and potholes and frequent calls to 311, I want to make sure we are all clear on the details.

Sinkholes and potholes are both dangerous to pedestrians and drivers, but they are not the same thing and of course, are not addressed by the same city agency.

"A pothole is when there is damage to the roadway, and it's filled with asphalt for a temporary fix," said Craig Chin, spokesperson for the Department of Transportation.

A sinkhole is an entirely different problem caused by a leak or broken pipe under the road. The Department of Environmental Protection repairs those.

But even if you know which agency handles which hole, it doesn't mean you're any closer to filling the void. The Department of Transportation evaluated two of the neighborhood's potholes — on Hicks and Clark streets, and Hicks and Remsen streets — only to declare them actually sinkholes. But because of extensive back ups at the DEP, no progress has been made.

Some residents say they have requested repaving at the intersection of Adams and Tillary streets for over five years, only to be told they are still on the waiting list.

"It's not just an aesthetic problem," said Lakshmi Choudhary, who passes the damaged roadway daily. "I've personally witnessed several pedestrians trip and fall because of these large dips."

But even if the potholes do get filled, it's often only a temporary solution. "We can keep putting asphalt on top of it and two weeks later the hole will reappear," said Chin. "What really needs to happen is the DOT is so backlogged on repairs, holes fall down the priority list unless they pose a major threat to traffic."

And our sinking state is not about to get any better. Winter usually results in an entirely new set of potholes because the constant freeze and thaw combined with traffic makes the concrete significantly more vulnerable.

Juliana Bunim is a writer who lives in Brooklyn Heights.

### HEIGHTS LOWDOWN

Juliana Bunim



## Keeping the faith

Mayor Bloomberg joined the joyous Simchat Torah festivities last Thursday night in front of two Remsen Street synagogues that were among a score of sites targeted by swastika-painting vandals. Bloomberg visited the Brooklyn Heights Synagogue and Congregation B'nai Avraham, where he is pictured with (from left) Yosef Garbow, Brian Inker and Zachary Rubinchik.

## New mansion on the block

By Adam F. Hutton  
The Brooklyn Paper

The Landmarks Preservation Commission has cleared the way for a four-story Greek-revival-style mansion at the corner of Hicks and State streets — on what the city says is the last empty lot in the Brooklyn Heights Historic District.

At a hearing on Sept. 25, the LPC had asked Gordon Kahn and Associates, the mansion's architect, to make minor alterations to the windows and remove some shutters, but the commission was otherwise satisfied that the plans matched the architecture and character of the surrounding buildings, said agency spokeswoman Lisa de-Brouin.

It is common for the commission to approve new construction projects, like the 4,500-square-foot house at 314 Hicks St., in historic districts. The LPC approved 44 such projects citywide between June,



2006, and July, 2007.

"It's not always easy for developers because the commission is in the habit of ensuring that new construction is compatible with the surrounding area," said de-Brouin. "They're meticulous."

Hence, its concern about shutter placement. Landmarks ordered



A site on the corner of State and Hicks streets, described by the Landmarks Preservation Commission as the last empty lot in Brooklyn Heights (above), will make way for the mansion at left.

Kahn to remove them from the State Street side to eliminate confusion about which side is the "front" of the building. The builder of the new Heights mansion, which will have five bedrooms, including a master suite that will take up the entire third floor, does not intend

to live in it. But whoever buys the place will be able to ride the elevator from the ground-floor parlor to the suite and walk onto the balcony overlooking the large garden, Kahn said.

"It's spacious without being vast," Kahn told The Brooklyn Paper.

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### THE KITCHEN SINK

The hot new trashy show, "Gossip Girl," was filming in DUMBO the other day, and our spies spotted starlet Blake Lively canoodling with Penn Badgley, her co-star on the CW show. As tout le monde knows, blonde temptress Lively plays Serena van der Woodsen on the show. Exteriors are often shot in DUMBO, but your eyes peered for *The Brooklyn Paper* in Jenny's Williamsburg apartment. ... George Clooney might be gone, but local thespian **Paul Giamatti** was spotted nosing on lamb with his wife at Noodle Pudding on Henry Street last weekend.

Grab your little ghouls and goblins and head to the **Pierrepont Playground** on Oct. 27 for the Halloween parade. Baked goodies will be sold to benefit the **Brooklyn Heights Playground Committee**. ... The **Williamsburgh Savings Bank** (over its unofficial portraitist, **Robert Goldstrom**, is getting a show in DUMBO. Goldstrom, who has painted 80 portraits of Brooklyn's tallest building in just five years, will show his works at **Underbridge Pictures** (111 Centre St., bet. Washington and Adams streets), through Oct. 14. For info, call (718) 596-0390. Email us at [Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com](mailto:Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com).

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# THE STOOP

CARROLL GARDENS-COBBLE HILL BOERUM HILL RED HOOK

## Graffiti man as preservationist

The man behind the sunglasses has emerged with a plan to keep his face on the wall. Graffiti artist Tony Brush is the person Brooklyn can blame — or thank — for those black-and-white, Warhol-style portraits of a slick-looking man in sunglasses that pop up on the borough's post-industrial leftovers and then disappear, like phantom Ray-Ban ads (below). If you don't know the face, you may know Brush through his graffiti alias, SAE, which he's been painting on walls from Bay Ridge to Red Hook since 1981.

After years of being a silent, smirking piece of the South Brooklyn landscape, Brush is now coming out of the paint to fight for the preservation of a vacant lot on the corner of Columbia and Halleck streets where he has been painting massive, curvy, neon renditions of his street signature for the past three years.

He believes the lot should be maintained as a sanctuary for, you guessed it, the city's oldest art form. Brush calls the derelict lot — a foot-ball-field sized former truck depot that has been flipped by real-estate speculators several times over the last few years — "the graffiti graveyard" because of the amount of vintage street art that has been left to fade on its pocked concrete walls.

While the illicit nature of graffiti dictates that even masterpieces of the genre will eventually disappear, the lot at 640 Columbia St. has been ignored long enough that its blowups have been granted rare stays of execution.

"Even though the city doesn't want to admit it, the boroughs are the founding fathers of an art form that spread all over the world. This is the art of the city, whether they like it or not, and (this site) holds its ancient history," said Brush, a 38-year-old Carroll Gardens native who still works in the area, though he now lives in Bay Ridge.

The potential of the site, which overlooks the soon-to-be home of Ikea and was bought by Columbia Realty for \$20 million last year, drew Brush in three years ago.

"No one was doing anything there," he said. "Why not make it beautiful?"

Now he sees being where others see blight. "You can make tons of money from people who want to shoot music videos and ads with graffiti as a backdrop," he said, citing a Long Island City factory called Five Points, where people are allowed to paint freely on the edifice. The blindingly bright, spray-painted covered building has become a popular spot to film commercials and music videos, he said.

Meanwhile, the "ancient" art on the walls is only getting older. Columbia Realty didn't return phone calls. It has yet to submit any formal applications to build on the lot.

Brush, who claims to "never" take off his sunglasses, plans to approach the company about holding an art show at the site, a first step towards gaining recognition of the site as a place for art, he said.

It's a longshot, but maybe they'll recognize him from the wall.

Former Red Hook legend Ariella Cohen now lives in New Orleans.

### THE KITCHEN SINK

Jo Anne Simon will be honored by LD Access, a nationwide learning-disability advocacy group, for her work on behalf of adults and adolescents on Nov. 5. Congrats! ... Cobble Hill Health Center staged its yearly fundraiser Thursday at Steiner Studio in the Navy Yard. ... We regretted to see that longtime neighborhood secret Nino's Pizzeria on Henry Street has served up its last pie. We're going to that eggplant parm. But the good news is that the joint, which is at the corner of Union Street, was slated to reopen on Friday as Francesco Pizzeria. The new owners also own the Mazzola Bakery across the street. ... Stop by on Sunday at the Hannah Senesh Community Day School on Smith Street and First Place to help them celebrate their new building. Email us at [Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com](mailto:Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com).

### BROOKLYN SOUTH



Ariella Cohen

## Money muddies port support

By Mike McLaughlin  
The Brooklyn Paper

The operators of Brooklyn's last working cargo port came under fire this week after they reportedly funneled tens of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions to elected officials who oppose the Bloomberg Administration's plan to evict them to create a tourist haven in Red Hook.

On Oct. 3, 21 elected officials sent a letter to the Port Authority urging it to halt its plan to sell the docks to the city and, instead, offer a new lease to American Stevedoring, Inc., which runs the cargo port.

Good government groups said the donations raise the specter of a quid pro quo.

"People who contribute political campaign money do it for two reasons," said Dick Dadey at Citizen's Union, a good government group. "One, they like what the candidate is doing on their issues and, two, they give to candidates who they hope will support their issues."

ASI needs friends in high places because it has been in jeopardy of losing its lease on



A big group of local politicians is demanding that Brooklyn's last working port be allowed to stay in Red Hook — but some critics complained that leaders of the group were tainted by campaign contributions by the operators of the cargo port.

four piers south of Atlantic Avenue that the Bloomberg Administration wants for use as a maritime museum, another cruise ship terminal, and a new home for the Brooklyn Brewery.

A spokesman for Yasky said the councilman was an ASI supporter long before he ever received the donations from company officials.

"David was chair of the Waterfront Committee and involved on this issue with this stance before any of these contributions were provided," said the spokesman, Sam Rockwell.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-Coney Island), who also signed the protest letter, has received \$30,400 in donations since 1997 from ASI Chief Executive Sal Cuccini and his family.

The other 18 politicians who signed the letter have not been the beneficiary of ASI largesse.

"It shows that there is broad support for the idea, regardless of whatever people's relationship is with ASI," Rockwell said.

The mayor accomplished part of his waterfront dream when the Queen Mary 2 and other cruise ships began docking at a new \$56-million terminal in Red Hook last year. To make room for the ship terminal, the city was able to force ASI off a neighboring pier, partly because it promised the cruise business would create hundreds of new jobs.

But only 14 full-time jobs opened up at the cruise terminal in the first year, far less than the 100 full-time workers employed by ASI.

The longshoremen say that the mediocre economic impact of the cruise industry — and not the campaign donations — explains why politicians support ASI's fight.

"People who were already skeptical of the city's plan came to a more solid conclusion that the whole thing wasn't really making that much sense," said ASI spokesman Matt Yates.

Nonetheless, the Port Authority remains committed to redeveloping the Brooklyn waterfront.

"We're working with the city to solicit the best competitive ideas for bringing jobs and economic activity to those piers," said Marc La Vigna, a Port Authority spokesman.

Calls to the mayor's office and the city Economic Development Corporation were not returned.

## Pier-less future?

A city plan that the operators of Red Hook's working cargo port from Port Authority-owned piers ran into opposition last week when 21 officials sent a letter urging the bi-state agency to give the dockworkers a new 10-year lease. Rep. Jerrold Nadler, Council Speaker Chris Cohn and Councilman David Yasky were among the signatories of the letter.

### So, what's wrong with that?

All three jobs have received hefty campaign contributions from the owner of American Stevedoring, Inc., which operates the port.

### What would the city do with the piers?

The city wants to expand its passenger cruise ship terminal and add in a maritime museum, a fancy brewpub and other supposed tourist magnets.

### Wouldn't the city plan bring new jobs to Red Hook?

Perhaps, but the city made that same promise when it said the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal would create hundreds of jobs — but it only created 14 ASI employs about 100 people.

## The Explainer



572 Pacific St. is up for auction.

## Former flophouse is on the market again

By Mike McLaughlin  
The Brooklyn Paper

This former Pacific Street flophouse and murder site can be yours thanks to a city auction announced this week.

It's certainly not the first time that the city has tried to unload the vacant three-story shell at 572 Pacific St., between Fourth and Flatbush avenues, since taking possession of the property 21 years ago. During that time, it was a single-room-occupancy hotel and the site of three murders during the bad old, pre-Jonathan Lethem days in Boerum Hill, according to James Vogel, secretary of the Pacific Street Block Association.

Most recently, the plan was to bring in the Fifth Avenue Committee, a local nonprofit, to operate the building as a halfway

house, but the block association beat back that proposal and won a promise from the city that the building would remain a three-family home, Vogel said.

It shouldn't be so difficult to dispose of a house on an up-and-coming block near the confluence of Park Slope, Fort Greene and Boerum Hill, but several prior auctions failed when auction winners abandoned their bids before the city was able to complete the deal.

As a result, the building remains a boarded-up symbol of the block's Lethem-estate past.

The Department of Housing Preservation and Development will accept bids starting on Oct. 15. They're due on Nov. 2. Send bids to the agency's Asset Sales Program, 100 Gold St., New York, NY 10038 or via the HPD Web site, [www.nyc.gov/hpd](http://www.nyc.gov/hpd).

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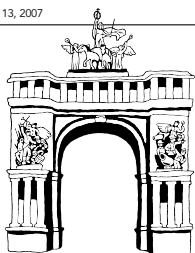
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# THE STOOP

PARK SLOPE PROSPECT HEIGHTS, SUNSET PARK  
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## 7th Av crash site is reborn

It's not exactly a selling point: Forty-seven years ago, a plane slammed into the heart of Seventh Avenue, killing 135 people and destroying two buildings at the corner of Sterling Place.

On Sunday, one of the buildings to fill the long-empty crash site had its open house. You can imagine why the broker didn't want anyone mentioning plane crashes.

"Why would you want to remind people about that?" asked Sandy Biano, the sales agent for the Vermeil (the name is a jeweler's term for gold on sterling — get it?), a 22-unit condo.

PS... I LOVE YOU



Adam F. Hutton

Why remind people? The simple answer is because the story of the long-forgotten crash is not only one of death and destruction, but also of bravery and the restoration of a damaged neighborhood. Whether Biano likes it or not, the new condos are part of that story.

On the morning of Dec. 16, 1960, a United Airlines DC-8, carrying 130 passengers, hit another plane over Staten Island at most nine miles from Park Slope. United flight 826 collided with TWA flight 266 — whose 44 passengers died when their plane plummeted onto Staten Island.

The crippled United jet flew on, buzzing low over Sterling Place at 200 mph. The plane veered and missed the St. Augustine's Academy — where more than 100 students were studying — but its right wing clipped a brownstone at 126 Sterling Pl. The impact of the wing changed the plane's trajectory and the fuselage smashed into, ironically, the Pillar of Fire church at 123 Sterling Pl. It next cleaved a brownstone before the wreckage skidded into McCaddin's Funeral Home — where The Vermeil now stands.

All the passengers and crew died. The crash also killed at least five people on the ground, including Wallace E. Lewis, an elderly Pillar of Fire caretaker, who was inside the church when it was consumed in the blaze.

Joseph Colacano and John Oppersano were having Christmas trees. Charles J. Cooper, a city sanitation worker, was shoveling snow. Jacob Crooks was out walking his dog. They were also killed.

Miraculously, all the people in the damaged homes escaped with their lives. Henry and Pauline McCaddin, the owners of the funeral home, were having coffee in their apartment above their business. Their neighbor, Robert Carter, pulled the McCaddins from the rubble.

Today, the corner of Sterling and Seventh is exactly as Biano would have her buyers see it — vibrant, thriving and affluent. But it didn't get that way overnight and who knows what it might be like if the crash had happened three blocks over on Berkeley Place.

The debris has been cleared, the damaged homes have been repaired, and the neighborhood has long since recovered. But that's no reason to forget history. Better we remember it and marvel at what can happen when a neighborhood pulls together in response to a disaster.

Adam F. Hutton is a staff reporter at The Brooklyn Paper who lives in Park Slope.

### THE KITCHEN SINK

Separated identical twins Paula Bernstein and Elyse Schein had the party for their scintillating book, "Identical Strangers," at Le Gamin on Vanderbilt Avenue on Tuesday night (their birthday!) and, befitting a French bistro, tout le monde was there. Toasting the memoirists were our pals Nico Lalli, Louise "Smartmoon" Crawford, the librarian from PS 107 and our photographer Julie Rosenberg. Fans of Key Food on Seventh Avenue (and who isn't a Key Food fan?) were pleased at the new bright green paint job on the garage facade of the building. While the green does little to mask the thick metal front, at least it blends in better than the old bright orange paint did. ... Our pals at Brooklyn Frame Works, which is on Fifth Avenue between Douglass and Baltic streets, are celebrating its 10th anniversary with a show called "Outer Space," that will be unveiled on Oct. 19 at 7 pm. There'll be astronomical prints, sci-fi movie posters and paperbacks on sale. Cops at the 79th Precinct are scary on perps and they're gearing up to scare your kids at their annual haunted house. Check it out at the Sixth Avenue stationhouse on Friday, Oct. 26 from 6-10 pm and on Saturday, Oct. 27 from noon-4 pm and again from 6-10 pm. ... You gotta hand it to Luis Solidespa, who has been sweeping up Flatbush Avenue in the Slope for 12 years with the North Flatbush BID. How about the next time you see Luis, you thank him for his seven-day-a-week service, huh? ... How about that Samantha Slavin? The 17-year-old Bishop Ford HS student had a story published in the new book, "Brooklyn Underground." Her teacher at Bishop Ford said Samantha hopes to major in journalism at college. Good luck with that, Sam!

E-mail us at [Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com](mailto:Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com).

## Miracle would save organ

By Ron Sklar  
for The Brooklyn Paper

If you've walked by the historic Old First Reformed Church on Seventh Avenue on any given Sunday, you've heard its majestic, powerful organ and thought it sounded like heaven.

But there's trouble in this particular paradise: many of the 116-year-old organ's pipes are missing. And to resurrect the organ to its original glory would take a minor miracle (or \$200,000, give or take).

Now the church is taking to the streets in search of donations. "Usually, organ repairs come from a couple of major gifts, plus a few smaller gifts," said the Rev. Daniel Meeter, the pastor of the church, which is at the corner of Carroll Street. "In a place like Park Slope, we think that the future of the organ can't be just for the church. It will have to be for the whole community."

Until the big bucks come in, organ artisan John Klaunder has been doing patchwork to keep the pipes alive with the sound of music. He can't wait to do a real, top-to-bottom restoration, even though it would require long hours in an uncomfortable working condition (lying on one's back for hours at a time).

"When you think about the hundreds of pipes and the thousands of people-hours that went into building that instrument ... it would be a shame to see that all waste away," he said. "It really is a beautiful organ."

Unfortunately, some of the mechanics did not hold up over the years, and when the church's next egg dwindled, repairs be-

came sporadic.

"It was like a Bentley being rebuilt by Ford," Meeter said. The main problem lies with the pneumatic leather (yes, leather), which is attached to the pipes. With age, those pouches deteriorate and replacing them is tough.

The pipes, which are the heartbeat of the instrument, were once innocent victims of some shady dealings, just as the church was at its lowest point. "In the 1970s [before Meeter arrived], the church brought in this guy who kind of destroyed

the organ," Meeter said. "He removed a lot of the pipes and sold them. He was a bit of a charlatan." But Meeter remains optimistic (he's Daniel Meeter, after all). "The money is there; it is just a matter of finding it," he said.



**Kung-fu winning**

The kung-fu pride of Park Slope, Yee's Hung Ga International Kung Fu Association, which is on Windsor Place, punched and kicked its way to eight gold medals at the Wong Fei Hung All Kung Fu Championships last week in Jersey City. One competitor, instructor Simo Tzyann Hau (center), won three golds herself. Also in the picture are Master Sifu Peter Berman (far left), Frank Alina, 17, (second from left), Joe Tartaglia, and Jane Chow (far right).

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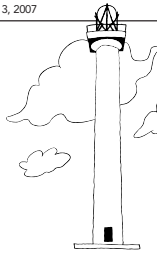
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# THE STOOP

FORT GREENE-CLINTON HILL

## Mega profits change nabe

**F**ort Greene and Clinton Hill, two of the few bastions of actual diversity in New York City, are becoming playgrounds for the rich.

It's payday for the owners of our neighborhoods' real estate, but moving day for longtime residents. More than 150 of those residents showed up at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church last week to complain of the pressure they were experiencing from their landlords and to hook up with tenant organizers and housing rights lawyers.

While the influx of working young professionals has helped rejuvenate the area, the accompanying increase in housing costs has come at a price, one that has resulted in the displacement of countless residents, said Councilwoman Letitia James (D-Fort Greene), who organized the meeting with the Pratt Area Community Council and Assemblyman Hakem Jeffries (D-Fort Greene).

James spoke to the crowd from the podium, in the shadows of the church's huge mural, the "Mighty Cloud of Witnesses." A Pratt Institute artist painted the mural of regular, seemingly middle-class, racially diverse Fort Greeners going about their daily lives in the 1970s, basing the individual portraits on photos he'd taken.

"That represents the blended community we all want to preserve," said James, pointing to the mural.

Then she resumed speaking to the homogenous crowd, made up mostly of middle-aged and older black and Hispanic women. Later, one tenant after another stood up to tell a tale of real estate woe.

There was Idalia Polanco, who has lived on Grand Avenue for more than 30 years. Her two sisters live in the same building.

About a year ago, her landlord began trying to evict both of her sisters. Now, Polanco says, she's trying to evict Polanco to have her unit for "personal use" — a legal, though often abused, loophole. So far, at least one judge has struck down the landlord's efforts, directing her to instead empty one of the several market-rate units also in her portfolio.

"I was able to raise my family when no one else wanted to live here," said Polanco, her son acting as her translator.

Then there was Bob Foster, a 30-year tenant of 266 Washington Ave., recently purchased by the Dermot Company, the real-estate firm that is turning the Williamsburgh Savings Bank tower into luxury condos.

"We've seen workers come in 10 at a time to work on the market rate rentals, but we can't get a repair done in our rent-subsidized apartments," said Foster. (Dermot countered that it's done countless repairs on rent-subsidized units.)

"It's getting late," added Foster. "Displacement is here. Displacement is here."

Such was the tenor of the meeting that night: angry, rebellious and pinched for time.

"We're at a crossroads in this community," said Jeffries. "I don't think it's a black or white issue — it's all about the color of money. It's all about greed."

Dana Rubinstein is a staff reporter at *The Brooklyn Paper*.

### GREENE ACRES



Dana Rubinstein



## Tree-huggers are green with envy over this eco-toilet

By Trevor Saponis  
for *The Brooklyn Paper*

The Hollenback Community Garden on Washington Avenue is about to become even more eco-friendly: it just installed a waterless composting toilet, one of the first of its kind in Brooklyn.

First flush will be later this month, after the installation of the solar panel, which powers the aeration bin.

The whys? What? More on that later. The most important thing is that the waterless toilet will replace the garden's chemical-filled port-a-potty, which not only was environmentally unsound, but also cost \$200 a month in rental and cleaning fees.

"Having this composting toilet will make everyone's life better," garden Co-Coordinator Cara Perkins explained. "We wanted the toilet to make the garden more user-friendly and so that people could really hang out and relax there."

"The [port-a-potty] was expensive and smelly and had to be placed right at the front of the garden, and it was very ugly," Perkins added.

At a meeting last summer, members brainstormed how to improve the garden and someone threw out the idea of a composting toilet, like the kind already in place



Mark Trushkowsky and Cara Perkins (pictured) helped get the Hollenback Community Garden an eco-toilet.

in Battery Park. In a stroke of serendipity, those same toilets were slated for removal, and were up for auction on eBay.

Despite an initial sticker price of \$15,000

each, Perkins submitted a \$150 bid, and won five toilets. Keeping just the one for the garden, the remaining four were donated to the Council on the Environment (two will end up in other Brooklyn gardens).

Work on the toilet installation began early in the summer with the excavation of a big hole to house the 800-pound aeration tank, where the water (the smelly part, actually) is removed from the solid waste (that's a euphemism, people). Once drained, the solid waste gets fanned (hence the solar power) and then broken down by micro-organisms (that's the composting part). Solar power is also used for the exhaust fan.

The garden's toilet has a 60-volt daily capacity.

"To foot our own horn, it's very cutting-edge, not only in the community garden scene, but also in New York City," Perkins said. "The Bronx Zoo is just finishing a project to build a facility with 16 units, using the same manufacturer that we have."

She's not worried that people may turn up their nose at the green loo, but it's better than all that chemical green goo at the bottom of a portable toilet.

"Some people might freak out by the prospect of waste that doesn't get flushed away [but] it's extremely environmentally friendly," Perkins said.

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## Raising the roof for green energy

By Dana Rubinstein  
The Brooklyn Paper

Two green-thinking Brooklyn architects have encountered an unexpected hiccup in their plan to make a Clinton Hill rooftop more environmentally sound: the mighty preservationist.

John Bruce and business partner Kian Goh, who run an architectural firm called Super-Interesting, had concocted a plan to green-ify the rooftop of Bruce's Clinton Hill building by replacing the tar and shingles, covering the bare roof with wooden decks and modular planting units, and most controversially, affixing a solar-panel canopy.

But the plan came undone when the Landmarks Preservation Commission visited the rooftop and determined that the canopy would be visible from a public street — a big no-no in the preservation world.

"We kind of ran into the landmarks law," said Goh. "They



The green roof design included a solar-panel-covered canopy that would be visible from the street.

said you could see the 'shade structure' [the solar-panel-covered pergola] from the street."

The 16-unit, four-story cop is at the corner of Greene and Clinton Hill Historic District. The disallowed solar panels have the

capacity to pump out about 2.5 kilowatts of energy a year, enough to offset up to one apartment's annual electrical usage.

Despite its rejection of the pergola, Landmarks, which oversees alterations to buildings within historic districts, urged

the architectural duo to move ahead with the rooftop's other "green" elements.

"The panels are not, in and of themselves, a problem," explained Lisi de Bourbon, the Commission's spokeswoman. "But they can't be visible from a public thoroughfare."

The photovoltaic shade structure may remain a green dream, but Kih and Bruce are moving along with other aspects of the plan: they've already re-roofed the house, and by winter they plan to have installed the hardwood decks and modular green space.

"We're creating usable space, protecting the existing flat roof from the elements, reducing the heat island effect, and we're providing a better vista for our neighbors," said Bruce.

Koh said she and Bruce will keep up the fight.

"We think this is something worth fighting for," she added. "It might not be historic, but it could be more important."

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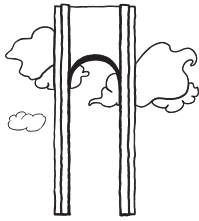
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# THE STOOP

BAY RIDGE-BENSONHURST DYKER HEIGHTS  
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## Sister Souliah in Bay Ridge?

The best thing about the 1960s, at least according to this columnist, was that they ended before he was born. Despite all the off-repeated flowery nostalgia, I always envisioned it to be a particularly anti-intellectual decade: heavy on chanting and marching and light on reasoned discourse.

Now the '60s are back, at least in Bay Ridge, as a new anti-war group calling itself "Bay Ridge Neighbors for Peace" has seemingly dusted off the old tie-dyed playbook and have targeted Rep. Vito Fossella (R-Bay Ridge) for his support of the war in Iraq. But while these activists succeeded in living up to the worst of my stereotype, one pol transcended the chants — call it Bay Ridge's very own Sister Souliah moment.

You remember Sister Souliah, of course. It was back during the 1992 presidential campaign when the rapper indicated that she didn't have a problem with black-on-white violence. At the time, many politicians had trouble condemning the comment — mostly because they were afraid to appear insensitive to the black community. But then-candidate Bill Clinton waited until he was speaking before an African-American audience to rebuke the rapper. The move helped Clinton position himself in the center, and also show white voters that he was not, like other Democratic candidates, willing to betray his principles to please a minority community.

Cut to the present. Lefty lawyer Steve Harrison was invited by the Bay Ridge Neighbors for Peace to attend their anti-war rally at Fossella's Bay Ridge office. Like the group, Harrison is very much opposed to the War in Iraq (in fact, linking Fossella to the Bush-led war was a major part of Harrison's 2006 campaign — and may have played a role in getting him an impressive 42 percent of the vote).

McCowen decided to turn her transportation frustration into a full-scale grass-roots movement. The multi-tasking activist began circulating the petition in July, despite working full time and taking night classes. Her crusade faces an uphill climb, since she is looking to

## Pilgrite tells Bloomie: Ferry on over here

By Matthew Lysiak  
The Brooklyn Paper

It's a landslide: Bay Ridge commuters want a ferry to Manhattan!

More than 1,400 people have now signed Heather McCowen's petition demanding the long-dreamed-about 12-minute ride to the 69th Street pier to Lower Manhattan, and now she wants to hand the petitions directly to Mayor Bloomberg.

She wouldn't only be delivering the petitions, but a message: transportation in Bay Ridge stinks. "Bay Ridge is one of the most underserved neighborhoods in Brooklyn," said McCowen. "Our subway line is grossly inadequate, and the Express Bus service is overcrowded during morning rush hours."

McCowen decided to turn her transportation frustration into a full-scale grass-roots movement.

The multi-tasking activist began circulating the petition in July, despite working full time and taking night classes.

Her crusade faces an uphill climb, since she is looking to



Heather McCowen has collected 1,400 signatures on her pro-ferry petition. Now, she wants to give it Mayor Bloomberg.

ple, low-pollution mass-transit alternative for Bay Ridge.

But residents just aren't taking to it for an answer.

"It would absolutely be a nice thing for this community," said local activist Peter Killen. "People are always looking for alternative routes of transportation."

Killen was involved in the last attempted resurrection of the pier in 2000, but says he was also shot down by the DOT.

New York Water Taxi, the company that operates "taxi" boats all over the city, is warm to the idea of running boats out of the Bay Ridge.

"We would certainly consider the possibility," said company rep Robert Pandolfo. "It isn't too complicated. All the terminal would need is a hanger system and a ramp built into the dock."

The DOT did not return requests for a comment.

To sign the petition, go to [www.petitiononline.com/1bayridge-ferry](http://www.petitiononline.com/1bayridge-ferry) or visit the offices of State Sen. Marty Golden (7403 Fifth Ave., at 74th Street) or Councilman Vince Gentile (8703 Third Ave., at 87th Street).

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this group to alienate them," said a visibly angry Harrison. "Everything they have ever done in this community is appropriate and what they deserve is a thank you."

The moment lasted all of one minute before Harrison moved on to his stump speech, which (unlike the Dems running for president) called for an immediate end to the war and used all the usual anti-war hype in condemning his opponent and the current administration.

But it was Harrison's "Sister Souliah moment" that stood out. A reach? Perhaps, but unlike Clinton's attack on the rapper, at least Harrison's "moment" wasn't pre-scripted. And that made it even more effective, because it showed that Harrison is a stand-up guy.

He may not have gotten this columnist's endorsement (chalk it up to a difference in world views), but the move shows that Steve Harrison has a backbone, being as refreshing in this current political climate.

Matthew Lysiak is a writer who lives in Bay Ridge.

### THE KITCHEN SINK

**Nike Long's** Conservative Party won't announce a presidential endorsement until someone becomes the nominee. And Long claims to be leaving the door open to native son **Rudy Giuliani**, but the odds of Rudy winning over the conservatives are between slim and none. The party is leaning towards Fred Thompson, who is the guest at the party's fall reception on Oct. 15 at the Sheraton in Manhattan. ... Vito goes green: **Rep. Vito Fossella** (R-Bay Ridge) recently pushed local officials to plant new trees and six new shrubs on **Dahlgen Place** to help reduce air and noise pollution for residents living near the 92nd Street exit ramp off the Verrazano Bridge. ... **Sen. Marty Golden** will be hosting an Oct. 23 luncheon at the Bay Ridge Manor to honor **Col. Tracey Nicholson**, Commander of the Fort Hamilton army base, for her recent designation as a 2007 New York State Senate Woman of Distinction.

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## Dueling pumpkins in Ridge

By Matthew Lysiak  
The Brooklyn Paper

Two local Republicans are going pumpkin to pumpkin to see who can host the most festive Halloween celebrations during this scary season.

The festivities kick-off at noon on Oct. 20, at Leif Erickson Park, which is located at 66th Street and Fort Hamilton Parkway, where Rep. Vito Fossella will be refreshing "Pumpkin Patch in the Park," which will include live music, pumpkin picking, hayrides and even pony rides.

Not to be outmatched, from 3-8 pm on Halloween night, state Sen. Marty Golden (R-Bay Ridge) will host his annual Haunted Halloween Walk and Fair at Owl's Head Park, which is at 68th Street and Colonial Road. The festival will also include hayrides, face painting, and lots of food and spooky signs.

But Halloween isn't just for kids, kids, or even humans for that matter. It is also for man's best friend.

On Sunday, Oct. 28, the Nar-

rows Botanical Garden, which is located near Shore Road and 71st Street, will host its canine costume contest, at show and crafts sale from noon-5 pm. Kids can paint their own pumpkin, listen to music, square dance, go on plant tours, and sample hot cider at the Greenmarket.

But the real attraction of that event will be the famous dog costume contest, where animals big and small will line up to show off their animal disguises

in hopes of impressing the judges who award prizes for creativity.

So who's event is the best? Everyone has his own opinion, but even the organizer of the Botanical Garden's event says Golden's party is the one to beat.

"I have been doing events for more than 20 years," said Chip Caffero. "Let me tell you, the Halloween Walk at Owl's Head Park is the best event in Brooklyn."

Pumpkin Patch in the Park, Leif Erickson Park (66th Street and Fort Hamilton Parkway), Oct. 20, noon-5 pm. For information, call (718) 356-8400.

Canine Costume Contest, Art Show and Crafts Sale, Narrows Botanical Garden (Shore Road and 71st Street), Oct. 28, noon-5 pm. For information, call (718) 748-9848.

Halloween night, Owl's Head Park (68th Street and Colonial Road), Oct. 31, 3-8 pm. For information, call (718) 238-5044.

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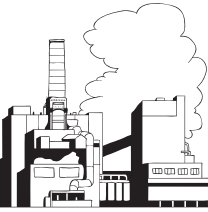
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# THE STOOP

WILLIAMSBURG-GREENPOINT-BUSHWICK

## Baseball was made in B'klyn

I will never forget my first time in Yankee Stadium, watching one of those tactical battles in which both managers repeatedly pinch-hit and change pitchers. The spectators were thinking along with every move, until Billy Martin decided not to bring in a certain reliever. The upper deck murmured its surprise. The crowd was actually reacting to a move the manager DID NOT make.

As both Mets and Yankees fans drown their disappointment in their liquid of choice this October, it may console them to reflect on the fact that New York fans are different from fans in Atlanta, Cleveland or L.A. By different, I mean more knowledgeable, more passionate — better.

This is because New Yorkers, especially we Brooklynites, have been watching baseball longer than anyone else.

You may have read that our national pastime was invented upstate or across the East River in Manhattan. Baloney! Baseball was born, in the truest sense of the word, right here.

It is true that the first club was organized in the early 1840s by a group of Manhattanites. Called the Knickerbockers, they published the first rules. That is why most historians credit them with having "invented" baseball.

One problem, though, is that the Knickerbocker game was, in the words of a contemporary sportswriter, "ridiculously dull." There was no base stealing, fast pitching, balls and strikes, or home runs. The other problem is that nobody watched it. Knickerbocker baseball was like a modern country club sport — played for fun and to justify a few post-game drinks.

A decade and a half after the Knickerbockers, baseball was taken up by the young men of Brooklyn, then a city of about a quarter the population of Manhattan; the idea was to beat the New Yorkers at their own game.

Baseball clubs sprang up in the Brooklyn Heights, Williamsburg, and Greenpoint. They created networks of youth teams that fed talent to the adult clubs. They made the game more athletic by adding the stolen base, the bunt and the position of shortstop. Even though amateurism was the rule, star players were paid under the table.

In 1858, Brooklyn challenged New York to a three-game series and narrowly lost. It became an annual event and Brooklyn never lost again.

Jim Creighton figured out how to throw a rising fastball, violating the spirit, if not the letter, of the pitching rules, which called for the ball to be served gently to the batter. Another Brooklyn pitcher, Candy Cummings, invented the curve ball. That pitch became the game's central weapon.

Meanwhile, a Williamsburg leather merchant named Cannemeyer had an idea.

On a lot bounded by Harrison Avenue, Rutledge Street, Lynch Street and Marcy Avenue, he built the world's first enclosed baseball park, the Union Grounds. He let in Brooklyn's top clubs for free, but charged spectators 10 cents admission.

Paying fans meant that this, and later ballparks, had to be surrounded by a fence. When a batter, whose identity remains unknown today, hit a ball over that fence, he authorized the first real home run.

Baseball was now a business. After only a few months, the clubs demanded a share of the gate; soon the first national professional league was formed. The people of Brooklyn paid to see baseball because they identified with their team, whether it was Brooklyn versus New York or two neighborhood teams fighting for bragging rights or an Irish team playing a WASP team instead of cracking their heads in the street. Brooklyn fans bought scorecards, tobacco cards and newspapers that printed the first box scores.

The energy that Brooklyn put into baseball helped sell it to the rest of America. From 1858 until well into the 1870s, Brooklyn remained the center of the baseball world. Midwestern clubs came here to find a second baseman. Teams from Manhattan played home games at the Union Grounds because they drew bigger crowds.

In 1877, a major league club from Hartford moved there to boost ticket sales. The Union Grounds closed in 1889, and the Dodgers have come and gone, but Brooklyn's passion for baseball remains undiminished. It is a club that baseball is perpetuated by fathers teaching their sons; but in Brooklyn, this game has been passed down from great-grandfathers.

No wonder baseball has such deep roots in our borough, its one true home.

Tom Gilbert is a writer and historian who lives in Greenpoint.

### THE KITCHEN SINK

Our pal, **Garrett Oliver**, brewmaster at the **Brooklyn Brewery**, has signed on as the Editor-in-Chief and leading author of the forthcoming "Oxford Companion to Beer," which will be published in 2011. Those British beer-writers couldn't have picked a better man. Oliver has created many award-winning beers during his nearly two decades of brewing and is a veteran of more than 500 beer dinners and tastings in eight countries. We can't wait to toast our pal when he brings over a case to our DUMBO offices. ... **Town Square** and the **McCarren Park** Greenmarket are inviting kids to PUMPKIN DAY in McCarren Park on Saturday, Oct. 13, from 11 am-1 pm. Come and pick out your own pumpkin and decorate them. There'll also be other arts and crafts, balloons and cider. To ramp up the fun factor, there'll also be a bluegrass band playing at the Greenmarket that morning! ... And don't forget that Town Square's annual children's **Halloween parade** and party is Sunday, Oct. 28 at 4 pm. Call (718) 609-1090 or e-mail [info@townsquare.com](mailto:info@townsquare.com) for more information.

E-mail us at [Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com](mailto:Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com).

### BESIDE THE POINT

Tom Gilbert



The so-called "Finger Building" on North Eighth Street needs a city permit to resume construction. When finished, it will rise 16 stories, giving a true finger to the low-rise neighborhood, opponents say.

## 'Finger' may get amputated

By Adam F. Hutton  
The Brooklyn Paper

A notorious, half-built tower on North Eighth Street — which locals call "the Finger Building" because of how it resembles a middle digit flapping the bird — should get cut off at the knuckle at a public hearing next week, members of Community Board 1 say.

The board's land-use committee has opposed owner Mendel Brach's application to finish a 16-story tower in an area that was downzoned in 2005 to bar anything higher than 10 stories.

Brach's project, between Berry Street and Bedford Avenue, was far enough along to change the plans or halt construction when the new zoning went into effect, according to the Department of Buildings.

But is remains unfinished thanks to legal challenges, several work stoppages by the city, and problems getting the right materials, according to Peter

Geis, a lawyer for Brach's development company.

That's why he'll ask the Board of Standards and Appeals for another 18 months to finish the 42-unit condo tower. But as far as CB1 is concerned, Brach had his chance to finish his project before the two-year deadline lapsed this summer.

"We really want the tower to stay the size it is now," said CB1 member Ellen Thies. Thies and others don't only have a problem with the design of the finger building, but also its designer.

The building's architect is Robert Scarano, whose champions credit him with putting his unique aesthetic stamp on a wide swath of Brooklyn, but whose critics accuse him of playing fast-and-loose with building codes.

"Developers like to use Scarano because he is a master of circumventing city zoning laws," said Williamsburg down-zoning advocate Phil DeFolco. As reported by The Brook-

lyn Paper last year, the Department of Buildings pulled Scarano's right to self-certify his designs after accusing him of rubber-stamping 17 plans that were larger than current zoning law allows.

The agency also accused Scarano of negligence at a

handful of job sites.

Board of Standards and Appeals public hearing on 144 N. Eighth St. (a.k.a. the "Finger Building"), BSA offices (40 Rector St., between Washington Street and the West Side Highway, in Manhattan, sixth floor), Oct. 16, 10 am. Call (212) 788-8547 for information.

## Solar toilet is stink free

By Trevor Saponis  
for The Brooklyn Paper

A community garden in Clinton Hill is about to become even more eco-friendly: it just installed a waterless composting toilet, one of the first of its kind in Brooklyn.

First flush will be later this month, after the installation of the solar panel, which powers the aeration bin.

The whysowhat? More on that later. The most important thing is that the waterless toilet will replace the garden's chemical-filled port-a-john, which not only was environmentally unsound, but also cost \$200 a month in rental and cleaning fees.

"Having this composting toilet will make everyone's life better," garden Co-Coordinator Cara Perkins explained. "The [port-a-john] was expensive and smelly and had to be placed right at the front of the garden, and it was very ugly."

At a meeting last summer, members brainstormed how to improve the garden and someone threw out the idea of a composting toilet, like the kind already in place in Battery Park. In a stroke of serendipity, those same toilets were up for auction on eBay.

Despite an initial sticker price of \$15,000 each, Perkins submitted a \$150 bid, and won five toilets. Keeping just the one for the garden, the remaining four were donated to the Council on the Environment (now called the Green City NYC) and will end up in other Brooklyn gardens.

Work on the toilet installation began early in the summer



Mark Trushkowsky and Cara Perkins (pictured) helped get the Hollenback Community Garden an eco-toilet.

with the excavation of a big hole to house the 800-pound aeration tank, where the water (the smelly part, actually) is removed from the solid waste (that's a euphemism, people!).

Once drained, the solid waste gets funneled (hence the solar power) and then broken down by micro-organisms (that's composting part). Solar power is also used for the exhaust fan.

The garden's toilet has a 60-volt daily capacity. "To tout our own horn, it's very cutting-edge, not only in the community garden scene, but also in New York City," Perkins said.

"The Bronx Zoo is just finishing a project to build a facility with 16 units, using the same manufacturer that we have."

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# The Gowanus has the clap



Despite its apparent use of protection, the Gowanus Canal was recently diagnosed with gonorrhea.

By Mike McLaughlin  
The Brooklyn Paper

It's covered with oil. It's laced with heavy metals. It receives millions of gallons of raw sewage every year. It even had cholera. And now the Gowanus Canal, that corpse of water between Park Slope and Carroll Gardens, has been diagnosed with gonorrhea.

Niloufar Haque, a biology professor, and her students from the New York City College of Technology, dunked their test tubes in the canal earlier this year — and they found gonorrhea, the flu and other sickening germs turned up in their samples.

"We were just saying we wouldn't want our child growing up around that water," Haque told the Daily News last week.

The finding couldn't have come at a worse time for area developers, who are salivating over a possible rezoning of the area to allow residential use. In that way, the finding of disease in this never-proud waterway may have a silver lining: local artists think the germs will help keep their rents low.

"It's probably good for us," said Joanna Marks, who helps organize the Annual Gowanus Artists Studio Tour, which will take place next weekend. "It might en-

sure that we can stay a little bit longer, because it can hinder development."

Developers, always looking for a diamond in the rough, think the area could be the kind of neighborhood you'd introduce to your mother, but it will take more than a dose of penicillin to fix the burning sensation Brooklynites feel when crossing over the canal.

"It has been so secret that the Gowanus Canal is filthy, and part of the process of developing the area is to clean it up," said Sam Rockwell, a spokesman for Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights).

No one knows for certain how a bowl of water, albeit a filthy one with a bad reputation, contracted a sexually transmitted disease.

Riverkeeper, a group that monitors New York's waterways, believes the canal got gonorrhea the old-fashioned way: from a toilet seat.

Well, not exactly the seat, but from the millions of gallons of raw sewage that flow into the canal when it rains.

"When you have that much raw sewage being dumped into our system, it's not surprising that you're going to find these pathogens in the water," said Craig Michaels of Riverkeeper.

## NEW FACE OF GRAFFITI VANDALS...

Continued from page 1

"He could have just asked!" Pepperman said. "This whole thing is ridiculous. Admittedly, this drawing was not her best work — she usually sticks to cheerful scenes, not abstracts, frankly — but to send a warning letter like is outrageous."

Pepperman ticked off any number of daily insults to common decency on her block, including (but not limited to) dog poop, garbage from ill-kept homes, and noise from car alarms. But Sanitation didn't get a 311 call about those indignities. It got a call about a 6-year-old's drawing.

"The report came in as 'graffiti,' and, as you know, the city is trying to crack down on graffiti on private property," said agency spokeswoman Cathy Dawkins.

"It's a standard warning letter," added Dawkins. "The prop-

erty owner has 45 days to remove it or ask the city to remove it. We'll inspect after that, and if the graffiti is still there, the property owner has another 60 days before we'll write a summons."

For sidewalk chalk that would dissolve at the first rain? Dawkins said the law is on her agency's side.

"The instrument used — whether it's paint or chalk — does not matter," she said.

But if Dawkins is right, then the city has just criminalized hopscotch or drawing arrows to point neighbors towards a stoop sale down the block — as long as a neighbor calls 311 to complain.

In reality, chalkers have little reason to start using invisible ink. The city's pre-eminent sidewalk chalk illustrator, Ellis Gallagher, says he's outlining street furniture and other objects for years and never been arrested.



Natalie Shea with her warning letter and the alleged graffiti.

"Cops stop me all the time when they see me drawing on the sidewalk, but once they see it's just chalk, they always let me go," said Gallagher, a Carroll Gardens resident (see his work at

www.myspace.com/ellis\_gae).

Gallagher believes that, despite local law 111 drawing in chalk is not illegal. But a call to the NYPD revealed that there's a lot of gray area.

"According to the New York penal law, graffiti is the etching, painting, covering, drawing or otherwise placing of a mark upon public or private property with intent to damage such property," said an NYPD spokesman.

When pressed to define "intent" or, for that matter, "damage," the spokesman asked: "If it can be washed away, it's not graffiti, clearly, but it still could be criminal mischief if I cover your car with mustard, that's not graffiti, but it's also not legal."

Pepperman is holding firm that her daughter is a pretty artist and not a petty criminal.

And for his part, Natalie's father, George Shea, hoped that his daughter wouldn't learn the wrong lesson from her "graffiti" crime wave.

"I do love that kid," Shea said, "but I wish she would stop capping my tags."



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## Apple to Billyburg?

By Dana Rubinstein  
The Brooklyn Paper

The Apple Store and a Barneys Co-op are reportedly in talks to lease retail space in the ground floor of the Williamsburg Edge, the mammoth, 1,350-unit development rising on the Kent Avenue waterfront.

"Apple and Barneys Co-op are both negotiating for their first stores in Brooklyn," according to a report in the New York Post that cited anonymous sources.

Robert Greenstone, the broker handling any such negotiations, told The Brooklyn Paper, "I cannot confirm or deny it."

"It's a little premature," he said. "We are treating this with kid gloves."

The Edge, which will stretch along Kent Avenue, from North Fifth to North Seventh streets, has 80,000 square feet of retail space. Each retailer will be able to design its own storefront.

"Apple will look like Apple," said Greenstone. "Gorilla

Coffee will look like Gorilla Coffee. I'm just using names."

Neither Apple nor Gorilla Coffee — an independent Park Slope coffee roaster — responded to requests for comment.

"You really have the opportunity to mess things up or do things right," added Greenstone. "We won't mess things up."

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## POLICE BLOTTER

# Random thuggery in Slope

By Gersh Kuntzman  
The Brooklyn Paper

There were at least three violent muggings last week in Park Slope, though overall this year, crimes in that category are way down, according to NYPD stats.

Still that was no consolation to the victims in these scary cases: • Two thugs hushed a man who had just finished a walk in Prospect Park and stole his Walkman CD player on Oct. 4 — but the perps were quickly arrested, cops said.

The 27-year-old victim had left the park at the Third Street exit when the men — an 18-year-old and a 15-year-old partner in crime — attacked, knocking him to the ground with repeated blows to the back of the head.

After taking the Walkman player, the thieves fled into the park, but police quickly put out a report of the crime, with a description of the

## Hittin' the Slope

Park Slope experienced several horrifying muggings last week (see story above), though statistics show that such incidents are down so far this year (see below). All statistics are from Jan. 1 through Oct. 7. Source: NYPD

CATEGORY	2007	2006	% chg
MURDER	0	3	N/A
RAPE	6	3	+100
ROBBERY	119	157	-21.1
ASSAULT	71	76	-6.5
BURGLARY	152	141	+7.8
GRAND LARCENY	310	362	-14.3
CAR THEFT	83	107	-22.4

men. Police Officer Daniel Tristano soon found them and made the collar.

• Two muggers pounced on a woman as she came home early on Oct. 6 and robbed her of \$200, cops said.

The woman had just reached the corner of Sixth Avenue and 14th Street when the dauntless duo attacked. One man knocked her to the ground while the other rifled her pockets.

The perps then fled and a police canvas did not reveal their whereabouts.

• Two men pulled a knife on a 22-year-old man as he walked along 11th Street just before midnight on Oct. 1, cops said.

The perps showed off their shiny hardware and demanded the man's wallet. Instead, the victim pulled out \$8 and threw it at the first thug. Satisfied, the men fled, cops said.

Police are looking for a 5-foot-9, 180-pound man with a Caesar-style haircut, and his accomplice.

## Bar rob redux

Here it is, folks: more of our weekly reminders to keep a close eye on your stuff when you're out drinking.

In the first case, a woman enjoying a meal with friends at a hot new Douglas Street bar/restaurant told cops that her bag had been stolen from underneath her table — even though she had checked on it twice and never left it unattended, she said.

The 25-year-old Australian — dining, interestingly, at the popular new Australian bar at the corner of Fourth Avenue — told cops that she lost the full range of tourist accoutrements: an iPod, \$200 in U.S. currency and \$100 in Australian bills, her passport, makeup, a digital camera, memory cards and clothes in the 3 a.m. heist.

Two days later, a woman had her handbag — which contained \$60, a cellphone and various ID cards — stolen in the early morning hours of Oct. 7 at the end of a night of drinking at a Fifth Avenue bar.

The woman told cops that the thief had taken the pocketbook off a table, where she had left it during a dance or two at the club, which is between St. Johns and Sterling places.

## At bar, she gets smashed

A drunk woman snatched another bar-goer with a broken pool cue during an early morning bar brawl at a popular Fifth Avenue club on Oct. 1.

The victim said she had left the bar when the fight broke out, but was still smashed over the left shoulder with the cue stick by a woman she identified only as "June."

The bar is between Union Street and Lincoln Place.

## Laptop lame

Two computers were stolen from an apartment on Seventh Avenue between Lincoln and Berkeley places, in a midday heist while the tenant was not home on Oct. 5 — one of at least three break-ins last week.

Cops said a burglar pushed his way through the back window of the apartment at around noon and helped himself two Dell computers and a digital camera.

The total value of the heist was \$4,750, cops said.

In another digitally inspired home invasion, a burglar stole a Dell laptop and a Nikon camera from a Second Street apartment on Oct. 3.

Cops said the burglar broke into the apartment, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, at about 8 a.m. The crime was discovered at 7 p.m.

Also on the same day, an apartment on Fourth Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues was broken into between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. and the thief took a laptop computer and a pink towel valued at \$2, cops said.

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The Request for Offers is also available on HPD's website at [www.nyc.gov/hpd](http://www.nyc.gov/hpd) from October 15, 2007 through November 2, 2007. All sales will be subject to applicable governmental approvals.



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OUR OPINION

# A'Yards case a strong one

In a federal court this week, a lawyer for 13 residents and businesses whose properties are slated to be bulldozed to make room for Atlantic Yards made what we believe is a winning argument that Bruce Ratner's mega-project violates one of America's most-sacred principles, namely that the government can not seize a person's home unless there is a larger public benefit.

Lawyer Matthew Brinkerhoff wisely did not seek to deny the government's long-established power to condemn private property.

And he also did not try to argue the Supreme Court's landmark 2005 Kelo v. City of New London decision, which expanded the government's eminent domain power to allow private property to be handed over to a private developer.

But Brinkerhoff did find the eminent domain loophole that is explicit in Kelo: The government must decide to make the land grab before it has chosen a developer who will get the property.

As Brinkerhoff pointed out on Tuesday, Atlantic Yards was approved in a sham public process that was conducted only after Ratner had already been selected to develop the site.

And that selection followed years during which government failed to solicit viable ideas — and, indeed, rejected those that were nonetheless advanced — for redeveloping the Vanderbilt Yards, preferring to leave the land fallow until a hand-picked

developer — Bruce Ratner — came along and asked the state to condemn private property for him via its power of eminent domain.

A similar request was at the heart of the Kelo case, where the city of New London saw a reasonable public benefit in condemning land to build a new headquarters for Pfizer so that the company would not leave town.

But there's an important difference between that scenario and Atlantic Yards: New London did not take the private property to benefit the private developer who would build the Pfizer plant; indeed, the identity of the developer was determined only after a paper bidding process.

As the high court noted, that bidding process is essential: "It [would], of course, be difficult to accuse the government of having taken A's property to benefit the private interests of B when the identity of B was unknown."

But Atlantic Yards turns Kelo on its head. In this case, state officials did know the identity of B — Bruce Ratner — when it took property from A — the 13 plaintiffs.

To get around Kelo, the state has argued that the public benefit of Atlantic Yards — the construction of a basketball arena, the creation of affordable housing, the covering over of a scar-like rail yard — makes it a prime candidate for eminent domain.

But at Tuesday's hearing, two judges questioned that asser-

tion, seemingly understanding that under the Kelo ruling, government is not "allowed to take property under the mere pretext of a public purpose, when its actual purpose was to bestow a private benefit."

And at Atlantic Yards, the supposed public benefit is, of course, a pretext. The publicly built arena, for example, would be operated by Ratner under a 31-year lease. Indeed, he's already sold the naming rights to this supposedly "public" arena for hundreds of millions of dollars.

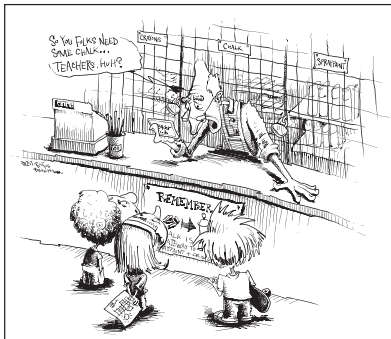
Brinkerhoff wisely pointed out that the arena is no different from a hotel: the public certainly has access to it — and may even enjoy going to events there — but it exists to make money for its owners, not the public.

And let us not forget that the "affordable housing" at Atlantic Yards is being built with substantial subsidies from taxpayers. Brinkerhoff wisely pointed out that the arena is no different from a hotel: the public certainly has access to it — and may even enjoy going to events there — but it exists to make money for its owners, not the public.

State officials say that Atlantic Yards will also eliminate urban blight. But we find it very telling that the state commissioned its sham "blight study" only after the Kelo verdict — an indication that they and Ratner were anxious to fabricate yet another supposed public "benefit" of Atlantic Yards.

That he was unskilled in the appeals court this week.

ALL DRAWN OUT



LETTERS

# Fulton Mall unclassy? A reader begs to differ

To the editor,

Juliana Bunim's column last week ("The Euros are spending!" Brooklyn Heights' Downtown Edition and online, Oct. 6) unfairly depicted the Fulton Mall as having "the scraps" — cellular mega-stores, bargain clothing, chain retailers and fast food.

For the past year and a half, I have been working on a documentary about the effects of the 2004 rezoning on Downtown Brooklyn. So it is sad to me that many journalists rely more on stereotypes of the mall generated by those who do not frequent it, rather than firsthand investigation of the place. I frequently wonder whether or not such writers have ever been to Fulton Mall and looked at what's there.

If Bunim had taken the time to visit Fulton Mall and looked beyond the superficial (and, might I add, race- and class-driven) stereotypes, she might've noticed a wealth of small businesses struggling to survive in the face of hyper-gentrification.

For instance, Eric and Rawle Gift own A&B books, an independent bookstore specializing in African-American and Caribbean literature. Nont Soul of Africa, on Livingston Street, sells beautiful handmade fabrics and unique African designs that are as elegant as any upscale dress shop on Fifth Avenue.

Along Fulton Street itself, there are a number of small vendors and merchants that cater to the hip-hop community. Bunim may not like what they sell, but a lot of peo-

ple do — as is evidenced by her acknowledgment of the 100,000 shoppers that frequent the mall daily.

**Alison Lifsh Dean, Williamsburg**  
The writer is producer of "Uprooted," a documentary.

**Editor's note:** We can assure all our readers that Juliana Bunim has visited the Fulton Mall — many times, in fact. It is also worth noting that none of the establishments cited by the letter writer is on the Fulton Mall itself.

## Cat-napped fever

To the editor,

Thank you for the page 1 story on the St. Marks Avenue cat-trapper ("It's a catfight! Prospect Heights kitties caught, left in Queens," Sept. 29). Since early summer, Prospect Heights has known who the "anonymous" trapper-napper is. (Neighbors are surprised only that she agreed to talk to your reporter.)

She admitted to Anna Pond that she dispatched one kitten "to Queens," and refused to say what had happened to it.

She denied anything to do with its missing siblings. Everyone believes she sent all three little kittens "to Queens" — i.e. to their deaths — and we suspect she is responsible for other cats never coming home.

The comments the cat-trapper made to The Brooklyn Paper reveal a sociopathic personality, which has shocked us all. She

calls her inhumanity "a service to the neighborhood."

She says she talked to a lot of people about her "stray" cat problem.

Funny how she didn't talk to any neighbor who has a cat. Instead, she was caught, checking her three baited traps, by normal (animal-loving) neighbors, who alerted the two blocks — St. Marks Avenue and Bergen Street — that all cats were in danger.

Who can believe her now when she says the cats "weren't harmed"? Anna and Paul, heartbroken over their missing cat family, repeatedly asked where in Queens they could recover them.

No answer.

**Patti Hagan, Prospect Heights**  
**Save the Slave!**

To the editor,

Thanks for your article about what has occurred and still occurring concerning the systematic destruction of Judge John Phillips, a great man in and out of the black community ("Slave theater could be sold to pay judge's debts," Oct. 6).

Thank you for permitting your reporter to write a honest view and continuing to expose the life of Judge Phillips, who has made this far in spite of all who tried to bring about his demise for no other reason than greed and political corruption.

**Deetha Woodburn, Bedford-Stuyvesant**

## Park funds OK

To the editor,

In your editorial last week, you complained about the control of Brooklyn Bridge Park that will be demanded by those who will be buying apartments in its periphery ("Park's slippery slope," Oct. 6). But that's a red herring. When the Park was approved some ago, the city was in no position to pay for a new park. In fact, it couldn't pay for the upkeep of the parks it had at that time.

People seem to conveniently forget that. So an innovative way to pay for the park was created where new housing would pay real-estate taxes earmarked for the upkeep of the park.

This truly isn't "their" money. It's money that otherwise would have been paid to the city treasury, but the city and the state said that as long as this was new housing on land that was not being taxed before the Port Authority leased it, we will allow it to be earmarked for the park to assure its upkeep.

No one will allow the people who live in the housing to forget that it's our money being used as the city has deemed appropriate to maintain the park. Surely no one will ever allow them to think of it as "their" park.

A dedicated fund for this purpose is not necessarily a bad thing.

**Sidney Meyer, Boerum Hill**

## Keep it C'Gardens

To the editor,

Thank you for your recent series of articles diligently covering the proposed building at 360 Smith St. ("Carroll courtyard saved" Sept. 15).

Clearly, the neighborhood is alarmed at the thought of a 43-unit building and the impact it will inevitably have.

Although we have had great media coverage, and some response from local elected officials, local politicians have been a little less than forthcoming with the following information: Where does the city plan to educate the many children who will inhabit the rash of new housing in the Carroll Gardens area?

Our beloved local elementary school, PS 58, is already at capacity, with a wait list for pre-K. Will we have to add it to the list of grossly overcrowded city schools? Who will be responsible for ensuring the safety of commuters and the children from the three neighboring schools who must cross Smith Street without a crosswalk, traffic light, or stop sign?

Why is there no procedure in place for an entire neighborhood to band together and fight the look, scale, and impact of giant developments? Why can't we have our moratorium? Over 2,500 of us have signed a petition asking for it!

**Mark Pellegrino, Carroll Gardens**

## Delivery Opt out

Every week, we deliver copies of The Brooklyn Paper to homes in designated Brooklyn neighborhoods. Our unique system limits deliveries to just a few papers per building (eliminating the kind of clutter caused by circular and menu delivery services). We hope everyone appreciates our free home delivery, but realize that there will be exceptions. So, if you've received The Paper at home and no longer want this free service, you've made it easy for you to "opt out" of home delivery. We've also made it easy for you to report any problems with deliveries (including missed delivery, or too many papers being delivered). To "opt out," please complete the simple online form at: [www.brooklynpaper.com/about/opt-out/](http://www.brooklynpaper.com/about/opt-out/). (We will do our best to honor your request within two weeks.)

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By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Brooklyn, NY 11201.

By fax: (718) 834-9278.  
All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

October 13, 2007

# Branching out



## One Brooklynite gets hardcore about his apple picking

By Bryan Rucker  
for The Brooklyn Paper

As fall approaches and leaves begin to turn, a young man's thoughts turn to apples. One of autumn's most time-honored traditions, apple picking, can be difficult for a city-dweller. Long drives to orchards and limited storage space can make bringing home a bushel a real pain in the peck.

Living on Atlantic Avenue, this reporter can walk for blocks without hitting a tree, let alone an orchard. Time and budgetary constraints being what they are, I decided to put a hold on my pastoral urges and pick apples here, right in the borough of Kings.

### Grand Army Plaza Greenmarket

I started at the Grand Army Plaza Greenmarket, a Saturday institution where picking prime produce can become a blood sport. Luckily on the day of my visit, a downpour ensured that I had the entire Tree Delicious Orchards stand to myself. Selling seven varieties of apples, from the ubiquitous Fujis and Galas to the royally named European Elstar, every variety of apple was less than \$1.50 per pound. My favorite was the blood red Empire, a crisp New York classic, both sweet and tart, with the complexity and lightness of a good Blanc de Blanc wine. Seven small apples cost only \$3.10 and were worth every penny.

The Grand Army Plaza Greenmarket (at the intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Eastern Parkway in Prospect Heights) is open Saturdays, 8 am-4 pm. For information, call (718) 965-8999.

### Fairway

My next stop was the gigantic — but difficult to get to — Fairway Market. After a journey on the G train and the B77 bus, I probably could have gone upstate faster than to Red Hook.

The seven types of conventionally grown apples were immense, weighing in at over half a pound each. I picked out the biggest, a Double-D red and yellow Braeburn flown in from New Zealand. Listed at \$1.49 per pound, it weighed over 10 ounces.

Moderately crunchy and pleasantly sweet in an anonymous way, its thick, slightly bitter skin was its most notable feature. Its small organic brother, one of eight certified organic varieties sold at Fairway, was \$1.99 a pound but cost 11 cents less. Livelier and containing notes of banana and pear, it had a richness of flavor that the other Braeburn lacked. Overall, the selection is great but not worth the hassle of the trip.

Fairway Market (480 Van Brunt St., between Water and Reed streets in Red Hook) is open 8 am-10 pm daily. For information, call (718) 694-6868.

### The Met

After the overwhelming abundance of Fairway, I went back to my neighborhood to see if a regular grocery store would be able to compete with a Greenmarket or gourmet behemoth. The Met on Fulton Street and St. James Place in Clinton Hill is just like dozens of markets throughout the borough; I go there for staples like eggs and garbage bags but rarely for produce.

They were selling six types of apples, each conventionally grown from anonymous sources and selling for \$1.49 a pound. Unlike at Fairway, some of these apples were bruised and discolored but were proudly displayed along with the others.

Thanks to its "superfresh-growers.com" sticker, the Golden Delicious looked like it might have been manufactured in a Tokyo factory but actually hails from Washington State. Surprisingly, it was juicy and fresh. See **APPLE** on page 10

## In the grow

### Apple trees can thrive in Brooklyn

By Emily Farris  
for The Brooklyn Paper

They say that an apple a day keeps the doctor away, but since most people buy their apples at the grocery store, they can just as easily pick up a bottle of vitamins instead. Living in the city, you can't grow the fruit in your backyard, right? Wrong.

Kevin Burget, an apple enthusiast who recently founded the Park Slope Apple Cider Society, began mapping apple trees in the borough this fall. While most of his findings are concentrated in Park Slope, he's found trees in Sunset Park, Flatbush and Brooklyn Heights, and hopes to discover more as he continues his search. Although finding the trees may take some work, getting permission to pick is easy.

"People are very excited to share their apples," Burget told GO Brooklyn. "In fact,

most people ask us to, because it keeps them from having to clean them up; when they begin to fall from the trees, people slip on them and they attract pests."

But when still on the trees, Burget said, apples grown in Brooklyn tend to attract fewer insects, because they're often free-standing and not surrounded by other trees and crops — a problem that forces many orchards to use pesticides.

Even if apples grown in the city aren't sprayed with pesticides, washing them is imperative. According to Chris Roddick, head arborist at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, city pickers should be just as concerned with soot from diesel engines and overall air pollution that might land on the apples as they are with pesticides.

"Pollution and pesticides are not going to kill you, but you should always wash it off before you eat it," Roddick advised. "Inspect

See **GROWING** on page 10

## The apple doesn't fall far

Despite the tempting trees in your neighbor's backyard, Brooklyn doesn't have many places to get the classic apple picking experience. To get the real deal, sometimes you've got to leave town, so GO Brooklyn orchards hit with a carload of friends and a few hours to spare.

— Bryan Rucker

Stuart's Farm in Westchester County offers apple picking as well as a market with local vegetables, preserves, pies and cookies.

Stuart's Farm (62 Granite Springs Rd. at Mahopac Avenue in Granite Springs, NY) is open 9

am-6 pm daily. For information, call (914) 245-0884 or visit [www.stuartsfarm.com](http://www.stuartsfarm.com).

Wilkins Fruit and Fir Farm offers all the tastes of fall, including one of the best snacks known to man: the apple cider donut. Open for apple picking through Oct. 31, the farm also stocks pumpkins and Christmas trees, making it perfect for a daytrip from now until December.

Wilkins Fruit & Fir Farm (1335 White Hill Rd. between Mark Road and Mohanic Avenue in Yorktown Heights, NY) is open 10 am-4:30 pm on week-

ends and holidays. For information, call (914) 245-5111 or visit [www.wilkinsfarm.com](http://www.wilkinsfarm.com).

Milk Pail Farm and Orchard in Bridgehampton might require you to take the long, slow drive along Route 27, but can you really complain when they offer you a ride in a hay wagon? This orchard offers 15 varieties of apples that you can pick directly from the trees, as well as a country store and pumpkin patch.

Milk Pail Farm and Orchard (Montauk Highway between Waterville and Bridgehampton on Long Island) is open Friday through Sunday, and on holidays, 10 am-5:30 pm. For information, call (631) 537-2565 or visit [www.milk-pail.com](http://www.milk-pail.com).

## CINEMA

### Film fanatic



On Monday, the Bard of Boerum Hill, Jonathan Lethem ("Motherless Brooklyn"), will swap his pen for a projector as the Brooklyn Academy of Music begins "Jonathan Lethem Selects," a month-long film series curated by the writer.

GO Brooklyn caught up with the busy author to see why and how these flicks, ranging from Leo McCarey's 1935 "Ruggles of Red Gap" to John Cassavetes's 1984 "Love Streams," made the cut.

GO: How did you pick the movies?

JL: I threw a whole lot of titles against the wall initially. As that list got smaller, I began to look for some kind of internal logic or sequence to the films or balance between them that would be pleasing.

GO: Were there any movies you couldn't get?

JL: We had a close call with "Straight Time," the Ulu Grosbard and Dustin Hoffman film. It's very hard to get a screening copy from the studio that owns it. Of course, once I rounded up [director] Ulu to come and talk about the movie, it made an irresistible case to the studio that it was worth loaning their print [which will be shown Nov. 12 at 7 pm].

GO: Do you make it to the movies often?

JL: I like to, but I've got a new baby, so I don't get to see movies as often as I used to.

GO: And when you do make it, what's your favorite movie snack?

JL: Popcorn with Raisinets in it.

For more with Lethem, visit [www.BrooklynPaper.com](http://www.BrooklynPaper.com). For a complete schedule of "Jonathan Lethem Selects," which runs through Nov. 19 at BAM Rose Cinemas (30 Lafayette Ave., at Ashland Place in Fort Greene), visit [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org) or call (718) 636-4100. Tickets are \$11, \$7.50 seniors and children, \$7 students. — Adam Rathe

## ART

### Hip shop

Walk down any street this weekend and you're bound to hit a store sale or two. But if you're really looking to buy some unique wares, the Art Mart in Prospect-Lefferts Gardens is the place to go.

"The real founding principal is that we want hand-crafted, original pieces of work," organizer Mark Dixon said. "There's a large arts community here, but there's no outlet for it. We're trying to provide [that]."

With products ranging from handmade jewelry to silk-screened T-shirts and traditional African drums, the Art Mart offers 40-plus local creative types a coveted opportunity to bring their goods direct to shoppers.

"Art Mart 11225: A Community Arts and Crafts Market" will take place 10 am-5 pm on Oct. 13 on Lincoln Road between Ocean and Flatbush avenues. For information, visit [www.pigarts.org](http://www.pigarts.org).

— Daniel Goldberg

## BEAUTY

### Feeling 50

For those needing relaxation or a sip from the fountain of youth, the final Spa Week of 2007 allows the "needy" to take the plunge for just 50 bucks.

Participating Brooklyn healing emporiums are offering a few of their treatments at the short-lived — Oct. 15-21 — discount to entice the borough's weary, wrinkled and worried to come in and discover their staff's nurturing talents.

"It's like Restaurant Week," explains Bruno Grillo, proprietor of Bruno Salon and Spa in Bay Ridge. "Get a taste to see what we're well-known for. I'm a fanatic when it comes to hiring the best aestheticians and massage therapists." Grillo is offering a 45-minute facial, microdermabrasion session or Swedish massage.

Additional Spa Week sites include Boerum Hill's Providence Day Spa, Williamsburg's Magnolia Beauty Spa, Bay Ridge's O Spa and Escape Medical Center, Bensonhurst's Delacqua Salon/Spa, and Dyker Heights' Skin Beauty Laser Center.

For a complete list of the services each spa is offering, visit [www.spaweek.org](http://www.spaweek.org) and click on "New York."

— Lisa J. Curtis

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## DINING

**Appropos Cafe** (186 Fifth Ave., between Sackett and Degraw streets in Park Slope) accepts American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa. Small plates: \$3-\$10.50. Lunch and dinner is available Tuesday through Sunday. Brunch is served on weekends, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Closed Mondays. Subway: R to Union Street. For information, call (718) 230-7625 or visit [www.approposcafe.com](http://www.approposcafe.com).

the salty funk of Gorgonzola. The pizzas are also a step up from the usual. I've been disappointed by individual-sized pies before, so I was delighted by the thin, chewy crust of Appropos' portobello pie and how well suited it was to its toppings. A generous amount of the roasted mushrooms are deepened by woody truffle puree and aromatic, fresh thyme. A puree of caramelized garlic and shallots lends a slight bite and sweetness, and pecorino cheese adds its distinctive salty edge. The pie is a balancing act of extremes that works. Other pizzas, like the clam pie made with a smother of the onion mix and Parmesan, are just as tempting.

The panini are thoroughly authentic, which may disappoint people used to over-stuffed sandwiches. The Italians make the sandwich with bread as the star and the filling a bit player.

The "Panesca" panino, one of several offerings that include a luscious "Cuban" with roast pork and sweet pickles, begins with a crisp, chewy ciabatta roll, its center layered with a few thin slices of smoked ham, mortadella, soppressata and salami. The spicy meats are teamed with tangy, salty provolone cheese and moistened with a splash of herbed olive oil. I'll take half the sandwich over another filled with a half-pound of meat that may be

Salads are another one of those hit-or-miss picks on most menus, usually because the dressing is timid. The two I tried when I visited — the arugula with buttery, roasted pear slices, and the beet — were tossed with dressings that made an impact. The spiced honey vinaigrette on the arugula, for instance, had a hint of sweetness that complemented the pears and dried cranberries while emphasizing the peppery greens and the salty edge of Gorgonzola. A mellow balsamic vinaigrette on the beet salad added tang to crisp, curly frisee and spicy arugula, while accentuating the sweetness of pickled red onion slices and bits of fresh, milky goat cheese.

Khanmahl, who has years of front-of-the-house restaurant experience, brings just the right touch to his cafe. The wine is poured with a heavy hand and is easy on the wallet; and the kitchen has no big gastronomic goal. There are enjoyable options, all thoughtfully conceived and prepared. When you want to linger over a glass of wine and a plate of something enjoyable, what Appropos Cafe offers is perfectly appropos.

# So 'Appropos'

## Less is more at this Park Slope wine bar

By Tina Barry  
For The Brooklyn Paper

One of the delights of dining out is stumbling into a place and finding something unexpected and special on the menu. At Appropos Cafe in Park Slope, a wine bar and small plate eatery in the authentic style, that surprise was a stellar bread pudding.

I don't know how the humblest of desserts made its way onto an Italian menu, but I'm grateful that it did. Chef Laurie Vanderwoude serves the pudding exactly as it should be: light, not terribly sweet, with a crisp top and a custardy center. She flavors the dessert with banana and a touch of chocolate, and to cut the sweetness, laces the bread with a strong shot of espresso. It's a destination dish of the highest order.

Like that bread pudding, the unassuming cafe is a pleasant surprise. There are plenty of wine bars in Brooklyn that I admire, but I think the goal of Ali Khanmahl, who opened Appropos in November, leans toward the old Greenwich Village, hip-and-savvy mode.

There's a nonchalance about the cafe that begins with the sign: its name is written on a small chalkboard that sits in front of its large windows; no trumpet-blaring awning announces its place on busy Fifth Avenue. Inside, the 15-seat, brick-walled space, edged with a long, soft, red banquet, glimmers with



**Appropos app's:** A trio of bruschetta, top, featuring (left to right) figs, tomatoes and white bean puree with prosciutto, are among Appropos Cafe's appetizers, and a selection of wines from Italy and South America, above, complements the small plates.

candlelight. It's an easy ambience that invites patrons to linger over tasty, carefully conceived, small plates and a well-priced wine list of mostly Italian and South American bottles.

The bruschetta here are a far cry from some of the banal, tomato-heaped versions found elsewhere. Order the tomato bruschetta and a slice of Italian

bread arrives thin, fresh and crisp, smeared with tangy, creamy Montacchi cheese and topped with ripe tomatoes and basil. Another sets well-seasoned white bean puree over a licorice-tinged pesto with a crown of crunch, salty pancetta. The best of the enticing lot pairs pieces of soft, warm figs that add their sweet carthagen to

## GROWING...

Continued from page 9

an apple from a tree you don't know, cut it open if you have to. But generally, if you can identify that it's an apple, it's safe to eat it off the tree."

If you're interested in growing your own apple tree, and blessed with enough green space to do so, Roddick said that "with good, fertile soil and the right PH [between six and seven] and sun, you can probably grow apples in New York City," but he warned that some types are much easier to maintain than others.

For novice growers, Roddick suggested starting with a highly disease resistant apple like the Liberty.

"Using a disease resistant plant minimizes spraying and it's easier to grow organically," he explained. And if organic is the only way to go, planting certain aromatic herbs and flowers, like marigolds, around the base of your tree can also ward off pests.

But apple trees can get very big, so Roddick

also recommended using a dwarf variety, or at least having your apple tree grafted onto a dwarf root, something most orchards and nurseries can do for you. But in the spirit of growing locally, Roddick suggested, well, stay local.

"If you go to some place like Home Depot, it's very unlikely they're going to know where the plant came from. Many nursery plants are grown out West and shipped across the country. There are a lot of small nurseries in the metro area that specialize in apple trees," Roddick said. "To do it right, you would need to find one of these nurseries on Long Island or in upstate New York."

Emily Farris is the author of an upcoming book on contemporary casseroles to be released by Perigee Books.

## BREAKING CHEWS!

Last week was a great one for Brooklyn restaurants. The ultra-exclusive "Michelin Guide New York City 2008" (Michelin & Cie, \$16.95) was released, and it sure showed our borough some love. Peter Luger and Dressler, both in Williamsburg, and Smith Street's Saul received stars from the guide, which rates restaurants based on product quality, preparation and flavors, cuisine personality, value and consistency. And eight other borough eateries received the "Bib Gourmand Prize" for value and excellence.

As if that wasn't enough, Red Hook sweet spot Baked was featured on the "Today" show, burying the shop beneath an avalanche of orders. In fact, we hear they're hiring extra help to keep up with the demand.

— Daniel Goldberg

## APPLES...

Continued from page 9  
with a honeyed sweetness. The Red Delicious (no relation but also from Washington) was slightly less flavorful, but it had a crunch that

put it ahead of half the Fairway apples and even a couple of the Tree Licious.

Met Supermarket (991 Fulton St. at St. James Place in Clinton Hill) is open Monday through Saturday 8 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sundays 8 a.m.-8 p.m. For information, call (718) 636-1620.

## Travel to the Hamptons and Long Island's Wine Country with Hampton Jitney

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2. Sag Harbor	2. Sag Harbor	2. Sag Harbor	
3. Amagansett	3. Amagansett	3. Amagansett	
4. East Hampton	4. East Hampton	4. East Hampton	
5. Amagansett	5. Amagansett	5. Amagansett	
6. Montauk	6. Montauk	6. Montauk	
7. Sag Harbor	7. Sag Harbor	7. Sag Harbor	
8. Amagansett	8. Amagansett	8. Amagansett	
9. East Hampton	9. East Hampton	9. East Hampton	
10. Montauk	10. Montauk	10. Montauk	

To Brooklyn* (Westbound)			
DEPARTING	MONTEAUK LINE	NORTH FORK LINE	PR. PER PERSON
Admission: \$10.00	Admission: \$10.00	Admission: \$10.00	
1. Montauk	1. Montauk	1. Montauk	
2. Sag Harbor	2. Sag Harbor	2. Sag Harbor	
3. Amagansett	3. Amagansett	3. Amagansett	
4. East Hampton	4. East Hampton	4. East Hampton	
5. Amagansett	5. Amagansett	5. Amagansett	
6. Montauk	6. Montauk	6. Montauk	
7. Sag Harbor	7. Sag Harbor	7. Sag Harbor	
8. Amagansett	8. Amagansett	8. Amagansett	
9. East Hampton	9. East Hampton	9. East Hampton	
10. Montauk	10. Montauk	10. Montauk	

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# 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 2

Whitman Theatre, Brooklyn College, one block from the intersection of Flatbush and Nostrand avenues. (718) 951-4500.

**RYAN REP:** "A Thing of Beauty" 3 p.m. See Sat., Oct. 13.

**BARGE MUSIC:** classical music concert 4 p.m. See Sat., Oct. 13.

**RIQUE REPERFORM:** To Kill a King 7:30 p.m. See Sat., Oct. 13.

**OTHER**

**ART SHOW:** Walking tour of the annual DUMBO arts festival. Tour includes visits to studios of resident artists. Also, tour of historic landmarks. 11 a.m. Meet at street level in front of Borough Hall. (917) 270-9967. For info visit [www.dumboartsfestival.org/festival](http://www.dumboartsfestival.org/festival).

**FLM:** Brooklyn Museum hosts a

Caribbean film series. \$8, \$4 seniors and students, free for members and children 12 and younger 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. 200 Eastern Pkwy. (718) 638-5000.

**RUMAGE SALE:** at Flatbush Reformed Church. 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm. See Sat., Oct. 13.

**Mon, Oct 15**

**WRITERS ON ROOFTOP:** Author J.K. Savoy reads from his first novel, "Somewhere in Brooklyn." at Prospect Park YMCA, 300 pm, 257 North St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues. (718) 768-1100.

**LECTURE:** St. Francis College offers a talk on travels in Eastern Germany. 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm. 180 Remsen St., room 713. (718) 489-5200. Free.

**KNITTING CIRCLE:** Barnes and Noble presents Kira Perovskaya, author of "Speed Knitting." Get tips and hear stories. 2:30 pm. Seventh Ave. Call for time. (718) 832-9066. Free.

**PHOTOJOURNALIST TALK:** Photographer Ruth Gruber. She discusses her book "Witness." 7:30 pm. Garfield Plaza and Eighth Avenue. (718) 499-4208. Free.

**BARNES AND NOBLE:** presents author Anthony LaSala and photographer Seth Kushner, creators of "The Brooklynites." 7:30 pm. 247 Seventh Ave. (718) 832-9066. Free.

**Tues, Oct 16**

**ARTIST LECTURE:** Jonathan Schipper, a sculptor and installation artist, speaks about his artwork and career. at part of the 2007-2008 Visiting Artists Lecture Series at Pratt Institute. 12:45 pm to 1:45 pm. Engineering Building, Room 371, 200 Willoughby Ave. [www.pratt.edu/directions](http://www.pratt.edu/directions). Free.

**RECEPTION:** Long Island University presents a reception for the work of Haitian artist Tita. Also, Haitian jazz band Bouy Antraxke Blues in Red Band perform. 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. 1245 pm to 1:45 pm. Engineering Building, Room 371, 200 Willoughby Ave. [www.pratt.edu/directions](http://www.pratt.edu/directions). Free.

**SUPPORT:** Harm Reduction Network (HARM) offers a support group for people who wish to drink more safely or to drink less. 7 pm. St. John's Episcopal Church, 139 St. John's Pl. (347) 678-5671. Free.

**NEXT WAVE:** Brooklyn Academy of Music presents, "Compania Nacional de Danza," with choreography by Nacho Duato. 8:00 to 9:00 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 638-4100.

**BARGE MUSIC:** classical music program of "The Brooklynites." 7:30 pm. 247 Seventh Ave. Call for time. (718) 832-9066. Free.

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**SCRIPT LITERACY 101:** Brooklyn Young Filmmakers Center discusses proper script format, how to write with a visual focus and how to use feedback. 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Grand Army Plaza branch. (718) 935-0995. Free.

**MEDIA LITERACY:** Prospect Park YMCA offers a talk on social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook. 7 pm to 9 pm. 802 Union St. (718) 768-7100. Free.

**BARNES AND NOBLE:** presents author Heather, author of "Matrimony," an exploration of the pitfalls of love and marriage. 7:30 pm. 247 Seventh Ave. (718) 832-9066. Free.

**DANCE FEST DUMBO:** Dance Festival and West River Series presents "Gala One." 8:00 to 9:00 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 638-4100.

**ONE ACT PLAY:** The Jolop Theater presents "The Holy Ghostly." 8:00 to 9:00 pm. 315 Columbia St. (718) 624-2083.

**KINGS COUNTY OPR:** at Freddy's Bar/Room. 8 pm. 485 Dean St. For info, [www.kingscountyopr.com](http://www.kingscountyopr.com). (718) 622-7003.

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**CHIEFE:** 101-story Brooklyn hosts a talk on Australian wine and cheese. \$40 per person. Private dining room at Smith and Vine, 268 Smith St. (718) 243-2864.

**DANCE FEST DUMBO:** Dance Festival and West River Series presents "Portables, Wallat." 8:00 to 9:00 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 638-4100.

**BARGE MUSIC:** presents a jazz concert with points Lee Musher. \$40, \$25 students. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

**KINGS COUNTY OPR:** at Freddy's Bar/Room. 8 pm. 485 Dean St. For info, [www.kingscountyopr.com](http://www.kingscountyopr.com). (718) 622-7003.

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Miracle Fortress, 5 pm, Airplane Pageant, 6 pm, The Jealous Girlfriends, 7 pm, The Muggabears, 8 pm, Big Sleep, 9 pm, Balthrop, Alabama, 10 pm, FREE.

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### LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 17th day of September, 2007, bearing Index Number N05080/2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 607, grants me the right to assume the name of Stave Kapiak. My present name is Vladislav Kapiak. My present address is 2355 East 12th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11220. My place of birth is Kiev, Ukraine. My date of birth is May 8, 1974.

EOE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 26th day of September, 2007, bearing Index Number N05087/2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 607, grants me the right to assume the name of Daniel Patricia Garcia. My present name is Daniel Patricia Garcia. My present address is 860 Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11222. My place of birth is Cuenca Ecuador. My date of birth is July 27, 1993.

EOE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 3rd day of October, 2007, bearing Index Number N05080/2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 607, grants me the right to assume the name of Emma Sara Chavez. My present name is Emma Sara Chavez. My present address is 1415 E. 54th St., Brooklyn, New York 11224. My place of birth is in Industry St. Mexico, Colorado. My date of birth is September 4, 1990.

EOE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 3rd day of October, 2007, bearing Index Number N05087/2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, K

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